

POL

27 - 9

BIAFRA - NIGERIA

3/1/69

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

☐ Retain class'n ☐ Change/classify to  
☒ Declassify with concurrence of         
EO 12958, 25X  
FPC/MDR by        Date: 3/17/97

Withdrawal No.                     

0440

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 966

GENEVA 792  
3-13-69

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00792 131815Z

41  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,  
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, RSR 01, UCF 03,  
UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, /153 W  
----- 030326

R 131741Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 644  
INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
AMCONSUL DOUALA  
CINCSRIKE UNN  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
USUN NEW YORK 2856

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 792

REF: YAOUNDE 423

1. UPI STORY FROM MADRID MARCH 13: REPORTS GEG PRESIDENT MACIAS HAS ASKED UN FOR \$4 MILLION TO HELP 70,000 NIGERIAN AND BIAFRAN REFUGEES IN EG.
2. UNHCR REFUGEES OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JAMIESON INFORMS US: UNHCR HAS KEPT IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR LINDT (ICRC) RE SITUATION THESE REFUGEES. GEG FONMIN NDONGO AGREED TO VISIT OF UNHCR REPI TO ASCERTAIN THEIR CONDITION.
3. UNHCR TELEGRAM TO GEG FINALIZING THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN ANSWERED TO EFFECT MATTER HAD BEEN REFERRED TO SYG, BUT REQUESTING \$4 MILLION.
4. UNHCR AWAITING SYG ACTION. TUBBY

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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Approved in U, 3/20/69

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RS/R-file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

3731

PART II OF IV

DATE: March 13, 1969

SUBJECT: Biafra

PARTICIPANTS:

Switzerland: His Excellency Felix Schnyder, Ambassador of Switzerland  
Mr. Charles Muller, Counselor, Embassy of Switzerland

United States: The Honorable Elliot L. Richardson, Under Secretary of  
State  
Mr. Wells Stabler, Country Director, Austria-Italy-  
Switzerland  
Mr. John E. Crump, Country Officer, Austria-Switzerland  
Mr. Robert O. Homme, Staff Assistant, U

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S/P AF IO MADE BY CMS 3/20/69.  
INR/OD USUN LAGOS

The Under Secretary said that the International Committee of the Red Cross, in addition to the very important work it performs regarding American prisoners in North Vietnam, also is very important for its relief activities in Biafra. He recalled that Mr. Ferguson, the President's Special Representative, is presently in Geneva and was to announce an additional U.S. contribution to Biafran relief of \$6 million. Ambassador Schnyder said he was pleased to hear this report. The presence of the ICRC may help in reaching a final solution and the U.S. assistance in the efforts of the ICRC would also be helpful toward reaching that solution.

The Under Secretary noted that Mr. Ferguson would travel from Geneva to Lagos and stated he would meet with Swiss Ambassador Lindt. Mr. Ferguson will perhaps later travel to Addis Ababa, depending on further developments in Nigeria. Ambassador Schnyder said that Switzerland was very anxious to be of help and requested that he be informed if there were anything further his country could do.

WJ  
EUR/AIS:John E. Crump:gb  
(Drafting Office and Officer)

(2) FORM DS-1254  
2-65

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BY S/S: CMS

POL 24-9  
BIA-FRA-NIGERIA

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

NR SOC 3 RED CROSS

UNCLASSIFIED 747

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00786 131612Z

44.  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,  
INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,PI 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,CCO 00,UPW 01,  
AID 28,SR 01,ORM 03,SCSE 00,SCA 01,OB 01,BOB 01,TRSY 11,E 15,  
AGR 20,HEW 07,ARA 08,EA 10,EUR 15,NEA 13,RSR 01,/223 W  
----- 029574.

O R 131547Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 640  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 786

FOR PALMER FROM FERGUSON

PASS MC CLOSKEY

SUBJECT: FERGUSON - FREYMOND PRESS CONFERENCE - GENEVA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT FERGUSON STATEMENT PRESS  
CONFERENCE HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 10:00 A.M.  
GENEVA TIME:

QUOTE. I HAVE THE PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE ON BEHALF OF  
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, ITS PLEDGE OF THE SUM  
OF \$6 MILLION (SW. FRs. 25.8 MILLION) TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AS ITS  
SHARE OF THE MARCH THROUGH MAY FUNDING REQUIREMENTS  
OF THE COMMITTEE. THIS ACTION OF MY GOVERNMENT  
FURTHER REPRESENTS ITS DEEP HUMANITARIAN CONCERN FOR  
THE VICTIMS OF THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. THE UNITED  
STATES HOPES THAT OTHER GOVERNMENTS WILL CONTINUE  
AND, IF POSSIBLE, INCREASE THEIR SUPPORT OF THE ICRC.

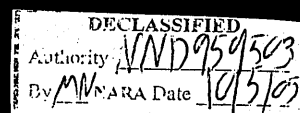
OVER THE PAST TWO DAY, I HAVE ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE  
CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT FREYMOND OF THE ICRC

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3-13-69  
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00786 131612Z

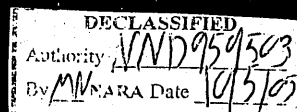
AND OTHER OFFICIALS ON HIS STAFF. I AM VERY PLEASED TO NOTE THAT GREAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN THE EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE DELIVERY OF FOODS AND MEDICINES TO BOTH SIDES OF THE BATTLE LINES IN NIGERIA. WITHIN THE COMING MONTHS, IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THE URGENCY OF THE DEMANDS ON THE COMMITTEE AND OTHER RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS WILL REQUIRE EVEN GREATER EFFORT AND EVEN GREATER INGENUITY IN MANAGING THE RELIEF OPERATION.

I SHALL BE DEPARTING SATURDAY FOR NIGERIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A PERSONAL APPRAISAL OF THE RELIEF OPERATIONS. IN ADDITION, I SHALL BE DISCUSSING WITH THE INTERESTED PARTIES SOME CONCRETE PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO INCREASE BOTH THE MAGNITUDE AND EFFICIENCY OF THE RELIEF OPERATION.

AS I SAID UPON LEAVING WASHINGTON, IT IS ON THE SUCCESS OF THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT IN WHICH SO MANY PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED THAT THE LIVES OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT HUMAN BEINGS MAY REST. THIS MISSION WILL CONTINUE WITH A SENSE OF URGENCY AND WITH THE PERSONAL RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S PERSONAL CONCERN FOR THE MANY SUFFERING VICTIMS OF THIS CRUEL CONFLICT. UNQUOTE  
TUBBY

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA XV

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
Classification

039299

13 MAR 69 22 36

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin  
Info:

ACTION: USINT SANTA ISABEL  
Amembassy DAKAR  
INFO: Amembassies LOME  
LAGOS  
YAOUNDE  
US MISSION GENEVA

REF: Santa Isabel 77

SUBJ: ICRC Flights for Santa Isabel

If Lindt requesting US transmit his views to Senghor Dept has no objection.  
However believe it inappropriate at this time, unless our views requested, for  
us to be Lindt's advocate in exchange between Senghor and other African Chief of  
state.

EXEMPT

END

ROGERS

39299

Drafted by: AF/CW:WESchaufele:lsr 3/13/69  
Clearances: AF/NW - Mr. King (subst)  
AF/W - Mr. Smith (subst)  
Tel. Ext. 3203  
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF/CW - William E. Schaefele, Jr.

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Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0445

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Authority: VVND 954503  
By: MNARA Date: 10/3/05



Department of State

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NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 064

PAGE 01 THE HA 00971 131929Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, UPW 01, UCFI 03, RSR 01, /153 W

030867

R 131030Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3617  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 0971

GENEVA FOR FERGUSON

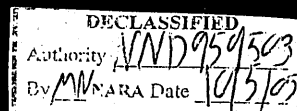
SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: THIRD MEETING "LUNS PLAN" GROUP

REF: HAGUE 801, 842

1. SUMMARY: AT THIRD MEETING OF "LUNS PLAN" GROUP MARCH 12, MFA'S HUYDECOPER REPORTED ON MARCH 7 DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA WITH ICRC AND SUPPORTED ICRC VIEW THAT FOR NOW ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON WINNING APPROVAL FOR DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. HE ASKED FOR SUGGESTIONS ON HOW GOVERNMENTS CAN HELP IN THIS, AND FOR GOVERNMENT VIEWS AT NEXT MEETING MARCH 31 ON OTHER RELIEF CORRIDORS, AS FALL-BACK SHOULD DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS PROVE IMPOSSIBLE. FURTHER, HE ENCOURAGED GOVERNMENTS TO LOOK AT PROBLEM OF INSUFFICIENT COOPERATION FROM SOME VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 THE HA 00971 131929Z

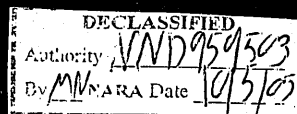
HOW THIS MIGHT BE CORRECTED. END SUMMARY

2. HUYDECOPER BEGAN BY STRESSING THAT PRESENT GON EFFORT IS, FIRST, TO ENCOURAGE COORDINATION OF EFFORTS BY IMPORTANT GROUP MORE OR LESS NEUTRAL GOVERNMENTS, AND SECOND, TO TRY TO FIND SPECIFIC WAYS TO FUNNEL AID TO DISTRESSED AREAS. DUTCH ARE NOT TRYING TO MAKE SPECIAL CASE FOR THEIR COORIDOR PROPOSAL. HE AGAIN STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SECRECY, SINCE SUGGESTION VARIOUS CORRIDORS UNDER CONSIDERATION WILL ONLY MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO BRING FMG AND BIAFRANS TO AGREEMENT ON ONE. (COMMENT: GON IS OF COURSE MOTIVATED CONSIDERABLY BY DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURES TO APPEAR TO BE IN FOREFRONT OF AID EFFORTS, BUT EMBASSY CONVINCED HUYDECOPER STATEMENTS ACCURATELY REFLECT ON POSITION. WE RECOMMEND MEANINGFUL U.S. PARTICIPATION IN TALKS HERE, BOTH SINCE "LUNS PLAN" GROUP COULD PROVE USEFUL FORUM AND AS OPPORTUNITY ENCOURAGE DUTCH INITIATIVES. WE THEREFORE WELCOME MARCH 14 VISIT OF FERGUSON AIDES, DENEY AND SCHOTT.)

3. FOLLOWING IS RESULT OF HUYDECOPER'S TALKS MARCH 7 WITH FREYMOND, LINDT, AND STROH (SWEDISH R.C.). (A) BECAUSE OF ICRC "HESITATIONS" ABOUT COMPOSITION OF "LUNS PLAN" GROUP, DUTCH WILL ADD SWISS, FINNS, AND IRISH. (B) ON OBILAGO, BIAFRANS HAVE TOLD ICRC THEY SIMPLY NOT CONSIDERING IT; BECAUSE IT ON FIGHTING LINE, SERIOUS PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE IN PRIVATE, AND THERE NO RESPONSE BIAFRAN SUGGESTIONS FOR WATER CORRIDOR. ICRC BELIEVE PRIVATE CANADIAN PROPOSAL CONSTRUCT AIRFIELD NEAR CROSS RIVER MAY ALSO BE INVOLVED, NOT TO MENTION UUKWU'S APPARENT DISINCLINATION ACCEPT ANYTHING THAT WOULD SOLVE RELIEF PROBLEM. (C) ON SURFACE CORRIDORS, WHICH ICRC BELIEVES IMPORTANT FOR LONGER RUN, ICRC PREFERS WATER TO LAND ROUTES. ICRC BELIEVES ORASHI RIVER MORE LIKELY GET BIAFRAN APPROVAL THAN CROSS RIVER, BUT LATTER PREFERABLE ON MOST OTHER GROUNDS. ALSO BELIEVES BIAFRANS WILL INSIST ON USE OAU TROOPS TO PREVENT FMG INFILTRATION ALONG ROUTE. (D) FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE, ICRC PREFERS ALL ENERGIES BE DEVOTED TO PRESSING FOR DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ULI AND/OR ORLU, WHICH OPENED RECENTLY. PRESSING

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PAGE 03 THE HA 00971 131929Z

OTHER PROPOSALS NOW WOULD ONLY DETRACT FROM THIS EFFORT. ICRC HAS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED USE OF THREAT THAT BIAFRAN REFUSAL ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WOULD BRING END TO ICRC ASSISTANCE. (E) ICRC SEES CONSIDERABLE VALUE IN "LUNS PLAN" GROUP FOR COORDINATION OF EFFORTS BY MORE OR LESS NEUTRAL GOVERNMENTS AND HOPES THESE GOVERNMENTS CAN ALSO HELP WIN GREATER COOPERATION FROM VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, PARTICULARLY PROTESTANT CHURCH GROUPS.

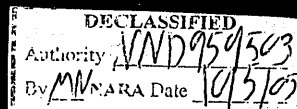
4. HUYDECOPER SAID DUTCH AGREE WITH ICRC ON DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND SOLICITED GOVERNMENTS' VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR WAYS TO SUPPORT THIS APPROACH, INCLUDING POSSIBLE OAU ROLE. HE ASKED ALSO FOR VIEWS ON ENCOURAGING NATIONAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO COOPERATE BOTH IN THIS AND IN MORE GENERAL SENSE, FOR CANADIAN VIEWS ON STOPPING PRIVATE CANADIAN OFFER BUILD NEW BIAFRAN AIRFIELD. (CANADIAN CHARGE SAID HE THOUGHT GOC COULD DO NOTHING.) THIRD, HE NOTED IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING LOOK AT ALTERNATIVES SHOULD DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS PROVE IMPOSSIBLE, AND AGAIN ASKED FOR GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES.

5. HUYDECOPER REPORTED RECEIPT BY NETHERLANDS EMBASSY LAGOS MARCH 11 OF FMG NOTE DATED MARCH 8 WHICH IN EFFECT SAYS ONLY NEW CORRIDOR FMG WILL ACCEPT IS OBILAGO, THUS APPEARING REVERSE EARLIER FMG APPROVAL OF DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. HE THOUGHT THIS EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF DRAWBACK OF OFFERING BELLIGERENTS MORE THAN ONE PLAN AT A TIME.

6. NEXT MEETING OF GROUP TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED MARCH 31. HOWEVER, WOULD BE USEFUL HAVE US VIEWS SOONEST ON MERITS DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS VERSUS OBILAGO. GIVEN DOMINANT US ROLE IN NIGERIAN RELIEF AND IN ORDER DEMONSTRATE WE TAKE GON EFFORTS SERIOUSLY (AND TO AVOID POSSIBLE LATER REPROACH WE WITHHELD COOPERATION), REQUEST GUIDANCE ENABLE US PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN NEXT MEETING. TYLER

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA  
Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02228 131713Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, UCF 03,

USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, RSR 01, 141 W  
029993

O P 131230Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5444  
USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2228

REF: GENEVA 774 — POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJ: NIGERIA RELIEF

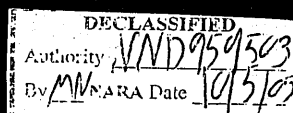
1. EMBASSY DISTURBED BY PARA 4 REFTEL INDICATING ICRC EXPECTS FERGUSON RAISE ISSUE THIRD AIRPORT WITH GOWON. THIS MOVE WOULD ENSURE THAT FERGUSON MISSION GETS OFF ON WRONG FOOT PARTICULARLY WHEN FMG HAS FOR PRESENT PLACED ALL CHIPS ON OBILAGO PROPOSAL AFTER RECEIVING ASSURANCE FROM CONGRESSMAN LOWENSTEIN THAT HE WOULD HOLD OJUKWU'S FEET TO THE FIRE ON OBILAGO. FMG ALREADY DISILLUSIONED BY LOWENSTEIN (AND BY INDIRECTION USG'S) APPARENT FAILURE TO KEEP PROMISE. FERGUSON WILL HAVE TO BE PREPARED WITH BETTER ANSWER ON OBILAGO THAN REPORTED STATEMENT BY OJUKWU'S FONMIN (PARA 3 REFTEL).

2. IN OUR JUDGMENT, ONLY REMAINING WAY WIND UP OBILAGO IN MANNER WHICH MIGHT LEAVE FMG RECEPTIVE OTHER PROPOSALS IS FOR LOWENSTEIN NOW TO HONOR HIS PROMISE TO DENOUNCE PARTY FAILING AGREE HIS PROPOSAL. IN SUCH DENUNCIATION WOULD BE HELPFUL IF U.S. AND U.K. GOVERNMENTS GAVE SUPPORT TO SUCH STATEMENT.

3. HAVING CLEARED OBILAGO OFF SLATES, MIGHT THEN PROCEED

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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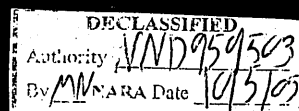
PAGE 02 LAGOS 02228 131713Z

RAISE QUESTION THIRD AIRSTRIPE. IN SO DOING, HOWEVER, WOULD GREATLY ENHANCE FEDERAL RECEPTIVITY IF CLEAR AGREEMENT ON PART ALL REPEAT ALL RELIEF AGENCIES CONFINE RELIEF OPERATIONS TO DAYLIGHT, USING ONLY NEW STRIP. WOULD ALSO BE IMPORTANT, ALTHOUGH BY NO MEANS REAL ASSURANCE, IF OJUKWU BE REQUIRED PLEDGE NEW STRIP WILL AT NO REPEAT NO TIME BE TAKEN OVER FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.

4. SUGGEST GENEVA 774 BE REPEATED LONDON.  
GP-3 MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 COTONO: 00283 140003Z

07  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01, UCF 03, RSR 01, 153 W

032676

P 131630Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1934  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 283

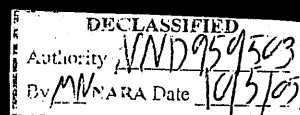
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: LAGOS 2228 / POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

AS DEPARTMENT AWARE FROM EMBASSY AND CAS MESSAGES, FAIRLY STRONG  
AND INFLUENTIAL CURRENT OPINION DEVELOPING IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES  
CRITICAL OF ZINSOU'S DECISION IN PERMITTING COTONOU-BIAFRA AIR-  
LIFT BUT WILLING TO ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AS SANCTIONED BY FMG.  
INCLINED TO BELIEVE ZINSOU WILL HOLD TO DECISION UNLESS GROUND  
GUT FROM UNDERNEATH HIM BY US AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS ALREADY IN-  
VOLVED IN RELIEF EFFORT. IF AS SUGGESTED REFTEL, US JOINED UK TO  
SUPPORT LOWENSTEIN DENUNCIATION PARTY (OJUKWU) WHICH REFUSED TO  
ACCEPT OBILAGO PROPOSAL, PRESSURES ON ZINSOU COULD WELL RESULT  
IN IMMEDIATE CESSATION COTONOU AIRLIFT AT LEAST UNTIL SUCH TIME  
DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS ACCEPTED. MOREOVER, ANY SUCH DECLARATION FOLLOW-  
ING FULSOME PRAISE HEAPED ON ZINSOU DURING US VISIT WOULD NOT  
IMPROVE ZINSOU IMAGE IN DAHOMEY OR ENHANCE STABILITY HIS  
GOVERNMENT. KNOX

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 434

PAGE 01 SANTA 00077 161941Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, UPW 01, UCF 03, EUR 15, AID 28, ORM 03, SR 01, SCS 04, SCA 01,  
E 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, 01,  
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, SSD 00, /168 W  
050844

P R 131110Z MAR 69  
FM USINT SANTA ISABEL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 072  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTA ISABEL 077

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 077 VICE 076)

ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR LINDT, PRES MACIAS SENT SENGHOR  
CABLE ON FEB 28 ASKING SENEGALESE PRESIDENT TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY  
BETWEEN ICRC AND FMG OF NIGERIAN. MACIAS EXPLAINED THAT ICRC  
INSISTING ON NIGHT FLIGHTS WHILE FMG WANTED ONLY DAY FLIGHTS  
AND GOE CAUGHT IN MIDDLE OF CONFLICT.

LINDT UNAWARE ANY RESPONSE YET FROM SENGHOR. HE HAS ASKED ME  
IF I WOULD SUGGEST TO EMBASSY DAKAR TO APPROACH SENGHOR AND  
URGE HIM TO REPLY TO MACIAS TO EFFECT THAT ICRC MAKING EVERY  
EFFORT FY BY DAY BUT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IS UNABLE TO  
AND THAT AS A HUMANITARIAN GESTURE NIGHT FLIGHTS SHOULD  
CONTINUE AS AID TO INNOCENT VICTIMS OF NIGERIAN WAR.

CURFEW ENDS MIDNIGHT TONIGHT BUT THERE NO INDICATION WHEN  
FLIGHTS MAYBE RESUMED. LINDT HAS APPOINTMENT TODAY WITH  
MIN TRANSPORTATION AND EXPECTS HAVE FIRM DATE OF FLIGHTS  
RESUMPTION. WILLIAMS

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*Santa Isabel 77  
3-13-69*

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DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 950/503  
By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/03

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POL 27-9 BIARRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 139

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00798 132023Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,  
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, UCF 03, AID 28,  
SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, /153 W

031226

R 131930Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 652  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

GENEVA-798  
3-13 69

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 798

SUBJECT: PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. WITH RESPECT TO LANDING SHIPS (LSM), ICRC GENEVA NOW ASKING FROM LAGOS EARLIEST DATE LSM'S COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN VIEW CURRENT COASTER CONTRACTS. EARLIEST TERMINATION PRESENT CONTRACTS IS PIA VISTA JUNE 6 AND PROCTOR JUNE 24. ICRC UNDERSTANDS NEED TO GET ANSWER PRIOR LSM CONTRACTOR'S DEADLINE MARCH 18, AND PREPARED TO DISCUSS DETAILS WITH CONTRACTOR IN GENEVA AS SOON AS URGENCY OF NEED IS CONFIRMED BY LAGOS. ADVANTAGES AVOIDING UNWIELDY COASTER SHIPMENT TO CALABAR DETAILED TO ICRC OFFICIALS IN HOPE OF EARLIEST INTRODUCTION LSM'S, NOTWITHSTANDING SOME INITIAL EXCESS COASTER CAPACITY WHICH MIGHT RESULT.

2. FREYMOND APPRISED PLAN FOR US CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ICRC RELIEF EFFORT AT MARCH 12 DINNER WITH FERGUSON, SCHOTT, AND DEWEY. FREYMOND CONVINCED THIS IS COURSE TO TAKE AND INDICATED CAPABILITY TO ABSORB COSTS IN ICRC BUDGET. ZIMMERMAN NOW WORKING OUT DETAILS WITH ICRC FINANCE OFFICER. ZIMMERMAN ALSO LEANS TOWARD US/AID NEGOTIATING CONTRACT RATHER THAN ICRC IN VIEW LACK OF ICRC EXPERIENCE IN ADMINISTERING THIS TYPE CONTRACT.

3. ICRC WILL ADVISE THROUGH MISSION DEVELOPMENTS BOTH SUBJECTS. TUBBY

①

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA  
 Department of State <sup>XR</sup> POL 16 BIAFRA  
**TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00692 131230Z

18  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15,UCF 03,UPW 01,AID 28,IO 13,SR 01,ORM 03,SCS 04,SCA 01,

CIAE 00,DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,RSR 01,153 W

028401

R 131055Z MAR 69  
 FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3723  
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS  
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
 AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

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SUBJ: BIAFRA

REF: ABIDJAN 575

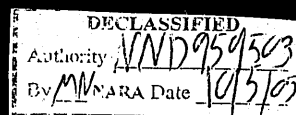
1. SEVENTY MORE BIAFRAN CHILDREN ARRIVED ABIDJAN MARCH 7 ON KNIGHTS OF MALTA PLANE.

2. FRATERNITE-MATIN MARCH 11 PUBLISHED NEW INTERVIEW WITH PETER CHIGBO, WHO NOW DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS ASSISTANT TO SPECIAL BIAFRAN REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSOR K.O. DIKE. INTERVIEW IN HONOR NATIONAL BIAFRA WEEK CURRENTLY BEING CELEBRATED IN FRANCE, AND DULY FILLED WITH EULOGIES OF FRENCH AND HOPES FOR FRENCH DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION. CHIGBO REEXPRESSED HOPE IVORY COAST AND OTHER STATES RECOGNIZING BIAFRA WOULD ORGANIZE SIMILAR FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS. SAID IVORO-BIAFRAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY IN PROCESS OF FORMATION, ALREADY FOR 500 MEMBERS, AND WOULD BE FORMALLY INAUGURATED AT END OF MARCH. IT WOULD BE COUNTERPART OF ORGANIZATION ALREADY EXISTING BIAFRA SINCE LAST JUNE, AND WOULD COLLECT FUNDS FOR BIAFRA. SAID THERE NOW 500 BIAFRAN CHILDREN IVORY COAST. ASKED ABOUT RELATIONS WITH RED CHINA, CHIGBO SAID NO RPT NO CHINESE MERCENARIES EVER IN BIAFRA, AND INDEED ALL MERCENARIES HAD BEEN EXPELLED AT END 1968.

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0454





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 00692 131230Z

SAID NUMEROUS JOURNALISTS WHO VISIT BIAFRA (ALAS, NO AFRICANS AMONG THEM) COULD TESTIFY TO THIS. NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY HAD LAST YEAR SUPPORTED BIAFRA'S RIGHT SELF-DETERMINATION, AND BIAFRA HAD EXPRESSED THANKS FOR DECLARATIONS JUST AS IT HAD FOR THOSE OF GENERAL DEGAULLE.  
DECON 1/1-72. MORGAN

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MV NARA Date 05/05



66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin  
Info

ACTION: AMEMBASSY LAGOS *PRIORITY*  
INFO: US Mission Geneva / *PRIORITY* FOR DEWEY

038482

37 A

12 MAR 69 23 10z

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SUBJECT: Landing Craft for Nigerian Relief

REFERENCE: Lagos 2166 *ne*

1. Local ICRC impression with regard to excess U. S. Government landing craft correct in every respect. Craft surveyed, cost and time to activate evaluated and consideration given to crewing and spare parts.
2. Analysis concluded that immediate availability of two ~~LSM~~ <sup>cheapest and fastest</sup> for charter was the ~~most prudent~~ method for all involved.
3. Operation would be complete package, i. e. Office Lagos, communication net to ships at all times, any location, 24 hour, 7 days a week operation with guarantee of not more than 2% down time for maintenance in 200 day period.
4. Craft configured for loading of cargo through bow ramp door and/or from ~~ships~~ <sup>ship's</sup> gear or from pier craned directly into well deck. Well deck is covered during inclement weather and while

38482

(2)

Drafted by: C. Flaherty, DOD  
A. E. Dewey, U/CF

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: David Dawson, U/CF

Clearances:

AF/AFW: ~~C. Sherry~~ *RWAVILLE*  
AFR/CWA: W. Haven North *WHS*

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0456

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 959503  
By: MN Date: 10/5/05

Page 2 of telegram to AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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Classification

vessel is at sea. Complete security for cargo is assured from the elements.

5. Off-loading time at site considering labor availability and conditions as observed is estimated at 80 ton per hour by porter. Time for back loading dependent upon commodity involved.

6. Sea track and river travel calculations are as follows:

<u>From</u>	<u>Sea Bouy</u>	<u>Time in and Hours</u>
Calabar ply wood site	Calabar Sea Bouy	9
Calabar sea bouy	Nwaniba	4
Lagos	Lagos Sea Bouy	1
Harcourt Pier	Harcourt Sea Bouy	4
Nwaniba	Itu	3
Itu	Calabar Sea Bouy	10
Calabar Sea Bouy	Harcourt Sea Bouy	10
Lagos Sea Bouy	Calabar Sea Bouy	45
Harcourt Sea Bouy	Lagos Sea Bouy	36

Calabar Sea Bouy to Lagos Sea Bouy on return trip light 37 hours.

7. ~~Anticipate clarity to questions provided.~~ We stand by for further assistance if desired.

ROGERS

0457

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA

IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS

STATE

FOR FERGUSON

1. Proposed press release Ferguson-Dawson telcon to be issued by Department spokesman 12 noon briefing March 13. Following suggestions for revision of text have been made: first reference to "war-torn areas of Nigeria" replace "of Nigeria" with "on both sides of the battle lines". Delete "in Nigeria" in second reference to war-torn areas. "cruel" second to last word in release to be replaced by "tragic".
2. Suggest insertion following end of second sentence after words Nigerian Civil War": "The United States hopes that all donors will continue or increase their financial and material support to the ICRC and that potential donors will use this opportunity to add their support to the relief operations."

Drafted by:

U/CF - D.B. Dawson

Tel. Ext.

8175

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

U/CF - David B. Dawson

Clearance:

AF - Amb. Moore

AFW - Mr. Melbourne

AFR/CWA - Mr. North

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

POL 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA  
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Authority VND 959503  
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin

ACTION:

Info:

-2-

3. Suggest that next sentence beginning "Over the past" commence new paragraph.

4. Request immediate telegraphic communication differences text as now proposed and as delivered.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

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FORM DS-322  
8-65

0459

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 950/503  
By MVA Date 01/3/05



# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

Origin

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA

Info:

STATE

Representation expenses up to \$100 authorized Mr. C. C. Ferguson while in Geneva. Charge Appropriation 72-1191000 Allotment 923-61-000-00-04-91. Send advice of charge to AID AFR/MET Mr. Krusekopf.

End

ROGERS

Drafted by:

O/FM:EJHortum:jfp 3/12/69

Tel. Ext.

4098

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/S-EX:HCBoudreau

Clearances:

AID - D. Cagle (draft)

~~O/FM:XXXXXXX(draft)~~

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By

DATE

VND 959503

10/5/03

10/5/03

0460

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-146744  
038137

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

3-12-69 2149

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02149 111429Z

47

ACTION AF 18

INFO UCF 03, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, SC5 04, SCA 01, AID 28, IO 13, SS 20,

NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, RSR 01, 127 W  
014250

R 121400Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5394

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2149

FOR FERGUSON

REFERENCE STATE 36431

DEPENDING YOUR PLANS AND WISHES PROPOSE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE  
SCHEDULE FOR YOUR VISIT FEDERAL NIGERIA:  
SUNDAY 16TH MORNING BRIEFING BY EMBASSY, USIS AND USAID  
OFFICIALS. LUNCH WITH ICRC DELEGATE EGLI. INFORMAL  
EVENING GATHERING WITH AMERICAN VOLAGENCY REPRESENTATIVES  
AND OTHERS PARTICIPATING RELIEF PROGRAM.

MONDAY 17TH MORNING CALLS ON COMMANDER IN CHIEF SECRETARY  
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARIKPO REHABILITATION COMMISSIONER OMO-  
BARE. MEETING WITH NIGERIAN RED CROSS. LUNCH AT AMBASSADOR'S  
RESIDENCE. AFTERNOON MEETINGS WITH UNICEF AND UN OBSERVER.

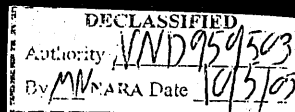
TUESDAY 18TH ALL DAY FIELD TRIP TO ENUGU REFUGEE AREA  
INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH NIGERIAN AND INTERNATIONAL RELIEF  
OFFICIALS. IF LONGER STAY IN FIELD DESIRED, COULD OVERNIGHT  
ENUGU RETURNING LAGOS WEDNESDAY MORNING 19TH.

WEDNESDAY 19TH FINAL CONSULTATION LAGOS EMBASSY AND USAID.  
CAN ARRANGE YOUR TRANSPORTATION TO COTONOU BY CAR.  
REQUEST GUIDANCE RE PRESS AS CORRESPONDENTS WILL CERTAINLY  
BE ASKING TO SEE YOU.  
GP-3  
MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

28

0461





POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02207 130824Z

17  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UCF 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00,  
JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,  
USIA 12, AID 28, RSR 01, /152 W

R 121600Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5433  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2207

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: DETAILS OF OBILAGO PLAN

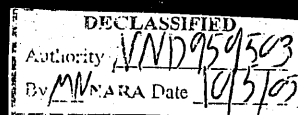
1. UKHC HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING TEXT OF LETTER DATED MARCH 5 FROM ARIKPO TO UK HIGH COMMISSIONER WHICH IS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS PUT TO ARIKPO SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF FMG OFFER OF OBILAGO AIRFIELD FOR RELIEF.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: OBILAGO PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY LOWENSTEIN IS AS FOLLOWS: "THAT ALL RELIEF SUPPLIES FROM WHEREVER THEY MIGHT ORIGINATE OUTSIDE NIGERIA SHOULD BE BROUGHT IN DAYLIGHT TO UTURU/OBILAGO AIRSTRIIP WHICH IS NOW FIRMLY IN HANDS OF FMG AND THEN BE TAKEN BY ROAD INTO REBEL HELD AREAS. AIRSTRIIP WILL BE CONTROLLED BY INTERNATIONAL INSPECTORS AND SUPPLIES WILL BE INSPECTED BY THESE INSPECTORS, PRINCIPALLY RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS RED CROSS AND OAU".

3. THIS PROPOSAL WAS SUBMITTED ON 5TH FEB AND ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT IN PRINCIPLE PENDING SIMILAR ACCEPTANCE BY MR. OJUKWU TO WHOM MR. LOWENSTEIN WAS GOING TO SUBMIT IT. LOWENSTEIN RETURNED FROM UMUAHIA ON 10TH FEB AND REPORTED THAT OJUKWU HAD ASKED FOR A WEEK WITHIN WHICH TO DISCUSS WITH HIS MILITARY ADVISERS AND CONVEY AND REPLY DIRECT TO LOWENSTEIN

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IN WASHINGTON.

4. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS REGARDING METHODS OF PUTTING PROPOSALS INTO EFFECT LOWENSTEIN SAID THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED A CORRIDOR STARTING FROM FIVE MILES BEHIND THE FRONT LINES OF BOTH SIDES. MR. OJUKWU HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD NOT ACCEPT A CORRIDOR WITHIN FEDERAL TERRITORY. LOWENSTEIN APPEALED TO US THAT IF LENGTH OF CORRIDOR WAS LIKELY TO HOLD UP AGREEMENT MY GOVERNMENT SHOULD BEND OVER BACKWARDS TO ACCOMMODATE OJUKWU'S DEMANDS.

5. I SUGGESTED THAT IN ORDER FORESTALL ANY DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN MILITARY ADVISERS ON BOTH SIDES IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR CORRIDOR TO BE AVOIDED ALTOGETHER AND THEREFORE PROPOSED FOLLOWING FORMULA: "RELIEF SUPPLIES WOULD BE ESCORTED BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO EXISTING FEDERAL FRONT LINE. IN NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN FEDERAL AND SECESSIONIST FRONT LINES, THERE ARE TO BE REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM AND RED CROSS AND VOLUNTARY RELIEF AGENCIES. NEITHER OF COMBATANTS WILL BE PRESENT IN THIS NO-MAN'S LAND. FROM THIS POINT INTERNATIONAL TEAM WILL ESCORT RELIEF SUPPLIES TO REBEL FRONT LINES FROM WHERE SECESSIONIST AUTHORITIES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THEIR TERRITORY".

6. AS TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ASKED IN YOUR LETTER, THE FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS: (A) ROAD FROM OBILAGO TO FEDERAL FRONT LINES WILL NOT BE NEUTRALIZED BUT WILL REMAIN UNDER CONTROL OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, AREA BETWEEN FEDERAL FRONT LINES AND REBEL FRONT LINES WILL BE NEUTRALIZED AND BE OCCUPIED ONLY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF OBSERVER TEAMS, ICRC AND VOLUNTARY RELIEF AGENCIES.

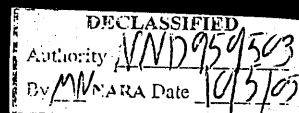
(B) ROADS IN USE BOTH IN FEDERAL AND SECESSIONIST TERRITORIES SHOULD BE OPEN FOR INSPECTION BY INTERNATIONAL INSPECTORS.

(C) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL INSPECTORS AT AIRSTRIP ITSELF. INTERNATIONAL INSPECTORS WILL THEMSELVES TAKE OVER RELIEF SUPPLIES WHEN THEY REACH FRONT LINES AND IT WILL BE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET THEM TO REBEL FRONT LINES.

(D) MY GOVERNMENT'S THINKING ON INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF OBSER-

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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VERS IS THAT IT SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SIX MEMBERS OF OAU CONSULTATIVE MISSION. SHOULD OJUKWU INSIST ON REPRESENTATIVES OF FOUR COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RECOGNIZED HIS REGIME BEING INCLUDED, MY GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO OAU CONSULTATIVE MISSION CO-OPTING SERVICES OF ANY TWO OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES, THEREBY INCREASING ITS MEMBERSHIP TO EIGHT COUNTRIES. THIS HOWEVER IS A DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY CONSULTATIVE MISSION ITSELF.

(I) OBVIOUSLY ICRC AND VOLUNTARY RELIEF AGENCIES OPERATING IN SECESSIONIST TERRITORY WOULD NEED TO BE REPRESENTED ON INSPECTION TEAM AS RELIEF SUPPLIES ARE TO BE TRANSPORTED BY THEM.

(II) MY GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER THAT ALL MEMBERS OF TEAM ARE CIVILIANS. THIS IS IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY CHARGES THAT MEMBERS OF THE TEAM ARE GIVING MILITARY ADVICE TO FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

(III) IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE DISPUTE WITH REBELS MY GOVERNMENT WILL NOT INSIST THAT THIS OR ANY OTHER TEAM, SHOULD INSPECT INSIDE REBEL TERRITORY. IT IS ENOUGH FOR MY GOVERNMENT TO SATISFY ITSELF THAT ONLY GENUINE RELIEF SUPPLIES ARE TRANSPORTED TO REBEL FRONT LINES.

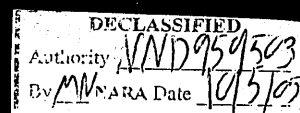
(IV) OBSERVER TEAM SHOULD CONSIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SIX OAU CONSULTATIVE MISSION COUNTRIES ETHIOPIA, LIBERIA, NIGER, CAMEROON, GHANA AND CONGO (KINSHASA). THESE SIX COUNTRIES MAY CO-OPT ANY TWO OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES THAT HAVE RECOGNIZED REBELS NAMELY TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, IVORY COAST AND GABON.

(V) OAU WOULD BE PARTICIPATING BY FACT THAT IT IS REPRESENTED BY CONSULTATIVE MISSION WHICH HAS BEEN ITS AGENT SINCE KINSHASA MEETING IN AUGUST 1967.

7. IT IS ESSENTIAL IN OUR VIEW THAT OAU BE INVOLVED IN THESE OPERATIONS NOT ONLY BECAUSE THIS IS POLITICALLY DESIRABLE BUT ALSO BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE PRESENT A NEUTRAL BODY OF OBSERVERS TO SETTLE DIFFICULTIES THAT WOULD INEVITABLE ARISE IN AN EXERCISE INVOLVING RELIEF AGENCIES WHICH ARE UNDER GREAT SUSPICION ON BOTH SIDES. AS LOWENSTEIN HAS SUGGESTED, OPERATIONS COULD BE FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF 30 DAYS AND BE REVIEWED THEREAFTER AS SITUATION DEMANDED.

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*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

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8. I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE INTEREST BEING SHOWN IN THIS  
PROPOSAL AND IT WOULD BE A GREAT HELP IF YOUR GOVERNMENT  
COULD ASSIST IN BRINGING IT INTO OPERATION. END QUOTE.  
GP-3.  
MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

0465

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND959503
By	MW NARA Date 10/3/05

(1)



POL DAHOMEY-NIGERIA  
 XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 832

*Cotonou 279  
3-12-69*

PAGE 01 COTONO 00279 121704Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,UPW 01,CIAE 00,DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,

NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,AID 28,SR 01,

ORM 03,SCS 04,SCA 01,EUR 15,PSR 01,153 W

022530

R 121430Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1932  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 279

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN-DAHOMEAN RELATIONS

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH DCM MARCH 11 SEC GEN FONMIN GAVE IMPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER PRESENT STATE OF RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA. HE ASKED DCM FOR HIS SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW DAHOMEY COULD SMOOTH RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA. DCM REPLIED THAT IT DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE A PROBLEM WHICH NEITHER SIDE IS PREPARED TO ADMIT PUBLICLY EXISTS. SEC GEN SAID PROBLEM WITH NIGERIA AROSE FROM ICRC AIRLIFT. HE ASKED DCM IF HE THOUGHT LIMITING ICRC OPERATIONS TO DAYTIME FLIGHTS ONLY WOULD SATISFY FMG. DCM SAID THIS MIGHT BE SUFFICIENT, BUT HE PERSONALLY HAD DOUBTS THAT OJUKWU WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT DAYTIME FLIGHTS. CONVERSATION REACHED INCONCLUSIVE END WITH BOTH PARTIES ADMITTING PROBLEM MOST DIFFICULT ONE AND WITH SEC GEN REAFFIRMING GRD'S INTENTION TO CARRY ON AIRLIFT.

2. COMMENT: SEC GEN'S REMARKS SHOW CLEAR INDICATION THAT AT LEAST AT FONMIN LEVEL THINKING IS GOING ON AS TO HOW TO GET NIGERIA TO LESSEN PRESSURE AT THE FRONTIER. DESPITE ADAMANT DENIALS BY SEC GEN WE SUSPECT SOME MEMBERS FONMIN WORRIED BY POSSIBILITY THAT NIGERIAN RETALIATION MAY CAUSE GRAVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR ZINSOU. WE ALSO SUSPECT THAT FONMIN HAS NOT BEEN FULLY CLUED IN AS TO ZINSOU'S APPROACH TO PROBLEM OF DAHOMEY'S RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA.  
CP-4, KNOX

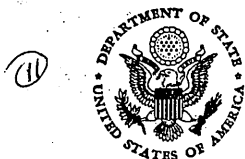
(3)

CONFIDENTIAL

17

0466

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority: *VND 950/503*  
 By: *MM* NARA Date: *10/3/05*



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 400

PAGE 01 COTONO 00277 121115Z

22  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,SS 20,RSR 01,RSC 01,056 W

020646

R 121038Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1931  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 277

SUBJECT: TRAVEL: C. CLYDE FERGUSON, JR.

REF: STATE 36431 / POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

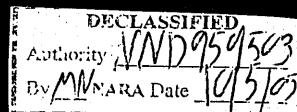
PLEASE INFORM EMB COTONOU OF NUMBERS AND NAMES THOSE  
PERSONS ACCOMPANYING FERGUSON. ANY FURTHER INFO ON  
ARRIVAL TIME IN COTONOU WOULD BE HELPFUL.

GP-4. KNOX

Cotonou 277  
3-12-69

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CONFIDENTIAL

0467







POL 27-9 BIAFRA, NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 961

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00772 121901Z

45  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, UCF 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, JSIA 12,  
RSR 01, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, ACDA 16, SS 20,  
SP 02, JPM 04, NSC 10, /149 W

P R 121833Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 627  
USUN NEW YORK 2849

023085

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 772

REF: LAGOS 2149

1. FERGUSON ARRIVES 1620 LUFTHANSA FLIGHT 560 FROM FRANKFURT SATURDAY MARCH 15TH.
2. PROPOSED SCHEDULE SUNDAY 16, MONDAY 17TH, TUESDAY 18TH OK. MUST RETURN LAGOS TUESDAY 18TH.
3. URGENT REQUEST SCHEDULE ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE GOWON AND ARIKPO ON WEDNESDAY 19TH FOR FERGUSON DISCUSS DETAILED SUBSTANTIVE HUMANITARIAN PROPOSALS.
4. PREFER FORMAT OF PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE DEPARTURE LAST DAY. PREPARED MAKE BRIEF NON-REVEALING GENERAL STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL.
5. REQUEST OFFICE SPACE TWO ACCOMPANYING STAFF DAWSON AND FLAHERTY.
6. PLEASE KEEP SOCIAL EVENTS ABSOLUTE MINIMUM.  
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0468

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VMD959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 031

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00773 121948Z

50  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,SS 20,RSR 01,RSC 01,056 W

023342

R 121833Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 628  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
USUN NEW YORK 2850

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 773

SUBJECT: FERGUSON VISIT NIGERIA

REFTEL: COTONOU 277

1. FERGUSON WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DAWSON AND FLAHERTY, MEMBERS  
FERGUSON STAFF, COTONOU AND BEYOND. TUBBY

GENEVA-773  
3-12-69

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0469

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By MN NARA Date 05/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 539

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00774 130124Z

92  
ACTION: AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, UCF 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, EA 10, AID 28,  
CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,  
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /162 W  
025221

R 121833Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 629  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 774

SUBJECT: NIGERIA RELIEF: CONVERSATIONS LINDT, FREYMOND, GENDRON

1. FERGUSON DISCUSSED WITH LINDT FOOD SURVEY TEAM AND AGREED ON THREE MAN TEAM. LINDT AGREED RELUCTANTLY REPLACE FRENCH MEMBER TEAM WITH SWISS CHOSEN BY FREYMOND. OTHER MEMBERS: AMERICAN (MIRACLE) AND PHILIPPINO. SURVEY SHOULD TAKE ABOUT FIVE WEEKS WITH TWO SPENT IN FIELD.

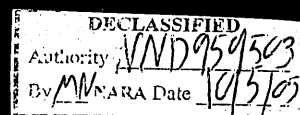
2. LINDT EXPRESSED CONCERN GENDRON'S DEPARTURE. CONVERSATION SCHOTT-GENDRON REVEALED HE WILLING CONTINUE FUNCTIONS HERE IF NOT FULL TIME GENEVA.

3. LINDT SUPPORTS THIRD AIRPORT (JOHNSON TEAM) SOLUTION. JOHNSON ESTIMATES 4-6 WEEKS COMPLETION. BIAFRANS CLAIM THREE WEEKS. AIRPORT LOCATION WOULD BE NINE MILES EAST UNUAHIA AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE INDICATES TEN MILES WEST CROSS RIVER. BIAFRANS WILLING DISCUSS ONLY THIRD AIRPORT AND OJUKWU'S FONMIN REPORTEDLY SAID "WE HAVE NOT REJECTED OBILAGO, WE NEVER CONSIDERED IT".

4. LINDT SAYS JOHNSON DISINGENUOUS CONSULT LAGOS RE AIRPORT. LINDT (FERGUSON CONCURRING) BELIEVES LAGOS MUST AGREE ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY HAVE CAPABILITY STOP CONSTRUCTION. ICRC EXPECTS FERGUSON RAISE AIRPORT ISSUE WITH GOWON.

CONFIDENTIAL

0470





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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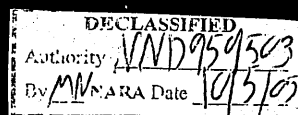
PAGE 02 GENEVA 00774 130124Z

5. LINDT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PLAN PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ICRC LOGISTICS SYSTEM. APPRECIATED ITS POTENTIAL FOR NIGERIAN-IZING SEGMENTS RELIEF DISTRIBUTION AS WELL AS IMMEDIATE BENEFITS OF PROVIDING TECHNICAL SKILLS BADLY NEEDED BY ICRC AND FYI POSTS. PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES SUBMITTED AID/W MARCH 8 BY VINNELL CORPORATION. PLAN ENVISAGES TRAINING CENTER ENUGU TO PROVIDE CRAM COURSE NIGERIAN CANDIDATES BASIC SKILLS WAREHOUSING, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT, MATERIEL HANDLING, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLY. UPON COMPLETION COURSE, GRADUATES ASSIGNED COUNTERPART FOREIGN PERSONNEL OPERATING RELIEF DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM KEY CENTERS, I.E., LAGOS, PORT HARCOURT, CALABAR-UYD AND ENUGU. CONTRACT PERSONNEL WILL BE POSTED THESE POINTS TO PERFORM DUAL FUNCTION SUPERVISING ON JOB TRAINING NIGERIAN TRAINEES AND ASSIST ICRC PERSONNEL IN DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS. CONTRACT PERSONNEL WOULD BE CONSIDERED MEMBERS ICRC STAFF. ALTERNATELY TRAINING CENTER COULD BE LOCATED LAGOS OR TRAINING CARRIED OUT AT NIGERIAN RED CROSS TRAINING FACILITY. IF CENTRAL TRAINING IDEA NOT ACCEPTABLE FMG, TRAINING CADRE COULD BE DISPERSED PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTION POINTS TO AUGMENT TRAINING CAPABILITY OF CONTRACTOR'S ON SITE PERSONNEL. VINNELL PROPOSES 15 MEMBER STAFF, COST APPROXIMATELY \$500,000 PER YEAR, CONTRACT FOR 18 MONTHS, SERVICES TRANSFERABLE ANY SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION OF ICRC. COST ASSESSED AGAINST US CONTRIBUTION ICRC BUDGET. WE WILL URGE AGREEMENT THESE TERMS IN LIGHT URGENCY EXPEDITING LOGISTICS EFFECTIVENESS AND TRAINING. POLITICAL OBJECTIONS LEADING TO REDUCTION CONTRACTOR TEAM SIZE WOULD CAUSE CORRESPONDING DELAY RESPONDING TO CRITICAL ICRC NEEDS, AND FYI.

6. FREYMOND DISCLOSED FOLLOWING INFO OTHER GOVERNMENT CASH CONTRIBUTIONS ICRC 6 MONTH BUDGET: SWISS HAVE COMMITTED 6 MILLION SW.FR. BUT WILL ANNOUNCE ONE MILLION PER MONTH STARTING TODAY; GERMANY, NO COMMITMENT BUT 6 MILLION SW.FRM CERTAIN AND POSSIBLY 12; SWEDEN, COMMITTED MAKE CONTRIBUTION, NO AMOUNT SET; HOLLAND, COMMITMENT FOR 3 MILLION SW.FR. BUT MORE EXPECTED; FINLAND AND DENMARK, NO FUNDS EXPECTED BECAUSE OF ACTIVITY THEIR CHURCH GROUPS, BUT DANES READY CONTRIBUTE MEDICAL SUPPLIES; FRANCE WILL MAKE TOKEN CONTRIBUTION; UK NO HOPE RECEIVING CASH; CANADA NOT EXPECTED CONTRIBUTE; NORWAY, ITALY, BELGIUM, AUSTRIA NOT YET KNOWN. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0471



March 11, 1969

Honorable H. Allen Smith  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

I have for reply your letter of February 27, 1969 to Mr. Jack Leahy concerning the situation in Nigeria. Enclosed for your information are the materials which you requested to facilitate answering correspondence on this subject.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to write.

Sincerely yours,

*W*  
William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

1. The Nigerian Relief Problem, 2/25/69
2. Disaster Emergency Relief Report, 2/15/69
3. State Department Press Release--Swearing in of Clarence C. Ferguson, Jr., 2/26/69
4. White House Press Release--Biographic Information on Mr. Ferguson, 2/22/69
5. List of Voluntary Agencies
6. Assistance Programs of US non-Profit Organizations, 1/69

Clearances:  
AF-Amb. Moore  
H-Mr. Leahy

*RM*  
*JAH / JEW*

*(1)*  
AF/W:RJWach:ba 3/4/69 RS# 6603

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0472

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 95/503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

H. ALLEN SMITH  
20TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
(40-47TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY)

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

February 27, 1969

COMMITTEE  
RULES

ACTION  
is assigned to

AF

Mr. Jack Leahy  
Congressional Liaison Office  
Department of State  
2201 C Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Jack:

This is with reference to my secretary's  
conversation with you last week concerning the situa-  
tion in Biafra.

I would appreciate it very much if you would  
send to me any information you might have available in  
connection with this matter. It would greatly facilitate  
answering any correspondence I may receive regarding this  
particular subject.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance,  
I remain,

Sincerely,

Res.

H. ALLEN SMITH  
M.C.

U/S 14 FEBRUARY 1969

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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HAS:smg

ANALYSIS BRANCH

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2-28-69

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0473

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VVND959503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
037340  
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

11 MAR 69 20 07  
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS  
Info: INFO: Amembassy COTONOU  
LONDON  
PARIS  
US MISSION GENEVA  
USUN  
CINGSTRIKE  
Amconsul IBADAN  
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria Press Summary - March 11

1. Balt Sun carries AP Zurich story headed Red Cross official cites medical needs Biafrans. August Lindt said today food situation in Biafra has improved but there is continued shortage medical supplies. "But if we relent in our efforts then famine will come back," he told news conference. "We are unable ship sufficient quantities medical supplies and we need more money and more means of transport." Lindt said although three ICRC planes were blocked on Fernando Po in restive EG, organization hoped increase airlift significantly starting March 27. Two high-capacity American C-97s then scheduled begin flying Biafra from Cotonou, joining four other ICRC planes based there. In response Nigerian charges ICRC money flowing into Biafra being used buy arms, Lindt said ICRC spending \$50,000 monthly in secessionist territory pay for salaries and transportation. In federal territory these expenses amount to \$120,000 monthly, he said.

Drafted by: RLP  
AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 3/11/69

Tel. Ext. 2105

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: RMM/RAC  
Nigeria Task Force:RMM Melbourne

Clearances:

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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Authority: VMD 950503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Info:

ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

2. Sun carries AP and NYTimes Reuters piece on Russian who jumped ship Lagos. Later Reuters story indicated sailor identified as C.G. Safranov would be returned Soviet officials according FMG.

3. Times and Wash Post carry stories on observers' report. Four-nation team said it can neither prove nor disprove Nigeria has indiscriminately bombed civilian areas in Biafra, team pointing out it had been unable visit Biafra to check such reports. Team, invited observe civil war by FMG, made statement following reports hundreds of Biafrans killed in recent raids by fed forces.

4. Post carries UPI Umuahia piece headed British aid to Nigeria assailed by Laborite. British Labor MP Frank Allaun condemned his govt policy sending arms to federal Nigeria. Said it was as foolish "as hoping you can do business in a cemetery." Allaun, chairman Labor Peace Fellowship and deputy chairman foreign affairs group Labor party said HMG wrongly advised support Nigeria on grounds it larger country and more populous than Biafra.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
Clearances:		

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0475

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Authority VND 954503  
By MNARA Date 10/3/05



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITHDRAWAL CARD NO. 53-1 <sup>POL 67-69</sup>

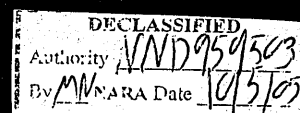
DATE: 5/18/69 MSG NO.: 2160 <sup>3/11/69</sup> TYPE: TE  
FROM: Lagos TO: Dept  
SUBJECT: Recruiting District in Poland + USSR  
DOCUMENT ORIGINATOR: DEPT. OF STATE: L OTHER:

BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL:

       CONTAINS NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION  
       OTHER LAW OR REGULATION

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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*Pol 32-1 Dahomey - Nigeria*

CONFIDENTIAL

277

PAGE 01 LONDON 01914 111925Z

*for Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*

42  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UCF 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 03, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, RSR 01, 153 W

016098

R 111716Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9262  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL IBADAN  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 1914

SUBJECT: NIGERIA-DAHOMEY BORDER

REF: STATE 36627- *Pol 32-1 Dahomey - Nigeria*

WE REVIEWED POINTS REFTEL WITH FONOFF'S JOHN WILSON (HEAD, WEST AFRICAN DEPT) WHO SAID BRITISH WERE AWARE OF OUR CONCERN FROM BRIT COUNSELLOR'S REPORT OF HIS CONVERSATION YESTERDAY WITH DEP ASS'T SECTY MOORE. FONOFF IS SENDING INSTRUCTION TO BRIT HICOMER LAGOS ASKING HIM TO CONSULT WITH AMB MATHEWS AND WORK OUT COORDINATED APPROACHES TO FMG.

BRUCE

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*London - 1914  
3-11-69*

0477

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Authority: VMD 950503  
By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/05



POL 27-9 Biafra-nigeria  
Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 589

PAGE 01 LISBON 00338 111216Z

11  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00,  
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INRI 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS: 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, UCF 03, /153 W

013525

R 111125Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3097

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0338

SUBJ: BIAFRAN RELIEF FLIGHTS THROUGH SAO TOME

REF: STATE 035225

1. REPLY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY INQUIRY (LISBON 108) MADE MARCH 10 BASED ON REFTEL. FONMIN OFFICIAL INDICATED GOP SATISFIED WITH PRESENT SITUATION AS RESULT OF FORMATION JOINT CHURCH AID ORGANIZATION TO COORDINATE ACTIVITIES VARIOUS RELIEF ORGANIZATION. HE CONFIRMED THAT CLEARANCE REQUESTS FROM JOINT CHURCH AID AND AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING ON REGULAR BASIS WITH REPRESENTATIVES IN SAO TOME ARE HANDLED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN SAO TOME WITHOUT NEED TO REFER TO LISBON. CLEARANCE REQUESTS FROM OTHER RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS NOT KNOWN TO GOP OR NOT HAVING REPRESENTATIVES IN SAO TOME SHOULD BE SUBMITTED THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IN ORDER TO GIVE GOP CONTROL OVER ORGANIZATIONS ADMITTED AND ALSO OVER FLIGHTS IN VIEW LIMITED AIRPORT CAPACITY.

2. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT THIS TELEGRAM AND REFERENCES TO LUANDA (SEE LUANDA 078) AND LAGOS AS DESIRED.

BENNETT

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By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

(18)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 638

PAGE 01 THE HA 00934 111233Z

42  
ACTION AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, UCF 03, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00,  
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02,  
SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 1152 WI

R 111135Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3611  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL THE HAGUE 0934

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 36953

1. MFA DIRECTOR AFRICAN/MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS HUYDECOPER  
WELCOMES VISIT BY SCHOTT AND DEWEY. APPOINTMENT SET FOR  
3 P.M., FRIDAY, MARCH 14, AT MFA (TWO BLOCKS FROM  
EMBASSY, THREE FROM HOTEL DES INDES). TWO SINGLES  
RESERVED HOTEL DES INDES MARCH 14. PLEASED MEET IF  
INFORMED ARRIVAL PLANS.

2. HUYDECOPER WILL BRIEF "LUNS PLAN" COUNTRY REPS  
MARCH 12 ON HIS TALKS GENEVA MARCH 7. HE TOLD US HE  
RETURNED CONVINCED BEST APPROACH FOR NOW IS TO CONCENTRATE  
ON PUSHING DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS, BUT BELIEVES STUDY OF WATER  
ROUTES SHOULD CONTINUE. HE NOW INCLINED BELIEVE  
PROSPECTS OBILAGO PLAN NOT GOOD.  
TYLER

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By MVA NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 572

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00749 111209Z

19

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01,

SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, UCF 03, RSR 01, E 15, DOT 12, 180 W  
013472

R 111130Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 609  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USUN NEW YORK 2845

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 749

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC COTONOU-BIAFRA AIRLIFT

REF: GENEVA 662

1. COMPLETED FLIGHTS NIGHTS MARCH 3-9 AS FOLLOWS:

MARCH	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6(S)	DC-6(T)	DC-6(R)	TONS
3	8	2	2	2	2	81.3
4	6	2	1	2	1	63.5
5	5	0	2	2	1	50.0
6	6	2	2	0	2	60.5
7	6	2	3	1	0	66.0
8	4	2	2	0	0	45.0
9	3	1	2	0	0	32.9

2. FALLING SHORT OF PLANNED THREE FLIGHTS PER PLANE PER NIGHT DUE TO VARIETY MECHANICAL PROBLEMS, "WEATHER CONDITIONS", HEAVY TRAFFIC OVER ULI NECESSITATING RETURN COTONOU WITHOUT UNLOADING, ETC.

3. ICRC CANNOT USE ANY OF THREE DC-7'S NOW AT SANTA ISABEL

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0480

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By: MNA Date: 10/5/05



*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00749 111209Z

FROM COTONOU, OR USE C-97'S FROM COTONOU, UNTIL TANKER CARRYING  
115/145 AVGAS ARRIVES COTONOU ABOUT MARCH 19.

TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

2

0481

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND959503  
By: MVA/ARA Date: 10/3/05

75

POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
036633

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA IMMEDIATE

10 MAR 69 20 10z

STATE

Subject: Ferguson Visit Geneva

1. Ferguson (Schott accompanying) arrives Geneva March 11,  
12:50 PM Swissair Flight 811.
2. Inform Lindt lunch impossible but Ferguson requests  
they meet for appetitif 4:00pm.

36633

ROGERS

Drafted by:

U/CF-SSchott

8175

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

U/CF - S. Schott

Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0482

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

75-

POL 27-9 BLAIRA-NIGERIA

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin

ACTION: US Mission Geneva

Info:

INFO: Amembassy Lagos

038946

10 MAR 69 23 06 z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

SUBJECT: Landing Craft for Nigerian Relief

1. A key requirement stated by Mission, ICRC officials in Lagos during Dewey/Flaherty visit was for landing craft for the Lagos-Nwaniba shuttle.

2. Have located two landing ships, medium (LSM) through Edwin H. Fletcher Associates, 218 West Church Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. Both presently in commercial service. First could be made available in ten days; second in seventeen days.

3. Estimated capacity approx. 1000 tons each. Could shuttle approx. 500 ton each Lagos to Nwaniba or Itu. Alternately, could go fully loaded to Port Harcourt and/or Calabar, then proceed with lighter load to Nwaniba or Itu.

4. Suggest ICRC Geneva contact Fletcher immediately to work out contractual details.

ROGERS

Drafted by: A. E. Dewey U/CF

Tel. Ext. 8277

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Steve Schott, U/CF

Cleared by: R. J. Wacziargue AF/AFW (phone)

WHaven North AFR/CWA

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8-65

0483

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Authority: VND 954503  
By: MNA Date: 10/5/05



**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNClassified  
Classification

**NIGERIA**  
036681  
10 MAR 69 20 59  
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Origin: ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS  
Info: US MISSION GENEVA  
INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA  
COTONOU  
LONDON  
PARIS  
USUN NY  
CINCSTRIKE  
Amconsul IBADAN  
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Press Release on Ferguson Trip

1. Following is text press release issued by Dept noon March 10:

QTE: C. Clyde Ferguson, recently appointed by Secretary of State as Special Coordinator on relief to civilian victims of Nigerian civil war, leaves today for Geneva. After consultations Geneva with ICRC and Volags involved relief efforts Nigeria's civil conflict, he will proceed to Lagos to commence on-scene inspection relief efforts, will also visit Biafran-controlled area. He will also touch on other points in area in connection his assessment relief problem.

2. While in Geneva, Ferguson will consult Acting President ICRC, Jacques Freymond. Ambassador Auguste Lindt, in charge ICRC relief efforts to war areas Nigeria, will participate. They will discuss coordination relief effort, problem ascertaining and meeting future food, medical needs both sides of battle lines in Nigeria and related fiscal matters. The USG has

Drafted by: AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 3/10/69

f 2105

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne

Clearances:

U/CF - Mr. Dawson  
DD/RS

P/ON - Mr. McGloskey  
RJM/RS

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0484

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND954503  
By: MNA Date: 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin

ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to LAGOS, GENEVA

Info:

already contributed over \$26 million to relief effort, including cash contributions over \$6 million to ICRC. American volags and private individuals have contributed further \$7 million.

3. President't statement on Ferguson's appointment drew attention to need for comprehensive internationally conducted survey future food requirements within Biafran-controlled area. While progress has been made in reducing starvation, recent reports specialists and study missions, particularly that made by Senator Goodell and his group experts after recent visit to area, high-light danger of alarming increase in food deficit, particularly with regard basic starches. Such a situation would have grave implications for international relief effort and, therefore, gives urgency to survey which Ferguson will be discussing Geneva.

4. It obvious to all concerned that present relief efforts must not only be maintained at level maximum effectiveness but also be expanded to meet growing needs created by war. In contributing to accomplishment these objectives, USG will continue be guided by principle that humanitarian effort should be kept separate and distinct from political issues.

5. Ferguson has stated: "In situation in which lives of hundreds of thousands

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

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0485

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By MW NARA Date 10/3/05

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
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Origin

ACTION: Page 3 of telegram to LAGOS, GENEVA

Info:

innocent human beings are at stake, this mission begins with sense of urgency and recognition of President Nixon's personal concern for many suffering victims of this tragic conflict.' UNQTE

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearance:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0486

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA

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Classification

036825  
10 MAR 69 22 26z  
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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

Ref: Lagos 2096

Ferguson accepts with thanks Ambassador's offer to stay at residence while in Lagos.

36825

ROGERS

1

Drafted by: AF/W:RJwach:ba 3/10/69	Tel. Ext. 2946	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne Nigeria Task Force Rm
Clearances U/CF-Mr. Schott (sub)		

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0487

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 950/503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 213

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02123 110659Z

18  
ACTION AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01, UCF 03, CIAE 00,  
JPM 04, H: 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,  
USIA 12, ORM 03, RSR 01, /153 W

R 101702Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5385  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NY  
AMCONSUL IBADAN  
AMCONSUL KADUNA  
CINCSTRIKE UNN  
DIA UNN

012006

UNCLAS LAGOS 2123

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM REPORT

REF: LAGOS A-117, MARCH 6, 1969

1. REPORT FOR PERIOD JAN 14 - MARCH 6, 1969, ISSUED LAGOS TODAY  
EMBARGOED FOR 1800 GMT. REPORT COVERS ALL THREE DIVISIONS  
PLUS VISITS TO OTHER AREAS WHERE THERE HAD BEEN SUBSTANTIAL  
IBO POPULATIONS.

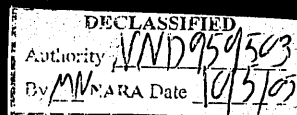
2. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

- A. TROOPS OF NIGERIAN ARMY SEEN BY OBSERVERS CONTINUE ADHERE  
INSTRUCTIONS IN QTE CODE OF CONDUCT UNGTE.  
B. MALNUTRITION PROBLEMS IN FEDERALLY HELD AREAS OF WAR ZONE  
BEING BROUGHT RAPIDLY UNDER CONTROL.  
C. PLANS FOR REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION AND CARE OF

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7

0488





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 02123 110659Z

IBO PROPERTY IN EFFECT IN ALL AREAS VISITED.  
D. ACTION TAKEN BY FMG TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN POW CAMPS.  
E. PROGRESS BEING MADE TOWARD NORMALITY IN ALL AREAS BUT TO  
LESSER DEGREE IN PORT HARCOURT AND RIVERS STATE.  
F. FMG HAS REITERATED DETERMINATION TO AVOID BOMBING OF NOMILITARY  
TARGETS. QTE AS OBSERVERS UNABLE OBTAIN PROOF SUCH  
BOMBINGS DO NOT TAKE PLACE, THEY CAN REACH NO CONCLUSIONS  
IN MATTER UNQTE.

3. REPORT SIGNED BY CANADIAN, POLISH, SWEDISH, UK MEMBERS.

4. REPORT STATES SEPARATE REPORTS WILL BE SUBMITTED QTE AT  
THEIR DISCRETION UNQTE BY OAU AND UN REPRESENTATIVES.

5. TEXT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.  
MATHEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

0489

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <i>VND 959503</i>
By <i>MM</i> NARA Date <i>10/5/05</i>

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 255

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02113 101729Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, E 15, DOT 12, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00,  
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,  
SS 20, UPW 01, UCF 03, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01,

/168 W

008393

P 101616Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5379  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2113

SUBJECT: " BIAFRAN" OFFER NEW SITE FOR AIRSTRIP

REF: GENEVA'S 734; LAGOS 1814 *PN 27-9 Biafra Nigeria*

1. REGRET APPARENT CHANGE IN HEART REFLECTED LINDT'S CONVERSATION WITH GENEVA (LAGOS 1814). ADOPTION OF PROPOSAL OF NEW AIRSTRIP BY RELIEF AGENCIES WOULD OF COURSE GIVE OJUKWU EXCUSE REJECT OR SIMPLY FAIL REPLY TO OBILAGO PROPOSAL. FMG SMARTING OVER ABANDONMENT OF OBILAGO PROPOSAL WHICH IT HAS ACCEPTED WOULD IN OUR JUDGMENT NO REPEAT NOT ACCEPT PROPOSAL FOR NEW AIRSTRIP. CONSEQUENTLY WOULD BE NO POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES TO EITHER PROPOSAL.

GP-3.  
MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

0490

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: *VND959503*  
By: *MM* NARA Date: *10/5/05*



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 954

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02090 101414Z

47

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

UPW 01, UCF 03, AID 28, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 141 W  
007250

PIR 101049Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5370  
USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USUN NEW YORK 886  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

COONFI DIENI I A LI LAGOS 2090

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF ICRC-JCA COOPERATION

DANISH AMBASSADOR INFORMS THAT HIS PRIME MINISTER HAD  
TALK WITH MOLLERUP OF NORDI CHURCH AID ON MARCH 4 IN WHICH  
LATTER AGREED THAT CHURCH GROUPS SHOULD WORK MORE CLOSELY  
WITH ICRC AND SEEK TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH FMG.  
OPC4 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

32

0491

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05





POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 134

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01041 101604Z

49  
ACTION AF 18

INFO SS 20, CU 04, UCF 03, SY 04, RSR 01, RSC 01, /051 W  
007865

R 101434Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8732

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 1041

SUBJECT: C. C. FERGUSON VISIT

REF: STATE 035806

1. I HAVE TODAY REQUESTED APPOINTMENT HIM AFTERNOON MAR 26  
OR ANYTIME MAR 27. I WILL CONFIRM IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT  
RESPONSE FROM PALACE.

2. ALSO SUGGEST MR. FERGUSON CALL ON OAU SECY GEN DIALLO  
TELLI DURING ADDIS VISIT. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE  
WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS, WE WILL COORDINATE TWO APPOINTMENTS.

3. HAPPY ARRANGE ANY OTHER MEETINGS OR ACTIVITIES DESIRED.  
I HOPE DEAN FERGUSON WILL STAY AT RESIDENCE.

HALL:

395 42 per

CONFIDENTIAL

0492

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VMD 950303  
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

66

POL 32-1 DAHOMEY- NIGERIA  
TR POL 27-9 BIAFRA- NIGERIA 036627

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

INFO: Amembassies ABIDJAN

ACGRA

COTONOU

LOME

LONDON

PARIS

Amsonsul IBADAN

US MISSION GENEVA

Info

STATE

REFS: Lagos 2012; Cotonou 252; State 30633 (Notal)

1. Dept believes FMG response expressed para 3 Lagos 2012 does not meet

basic problem. It is clear that pressure on GRD through border restrictions and elsewhere. Reported presence of Apithy in Lagos gives additional credence adding considerable fuel to dissident groups in Porto Novo area/to suspicion that FMG taking well calculated steps to upset fragile Zinsou Govt.

2. As FMG aware, question of adequate relief for Nigeria, including Biafra, is subject of deep official and private concern in US and elsewhere. Suspension of ICRC flights from Santa Isabel caused strong reaction to what was considered by many to be unjustified FMG pressure on GOEG to curtail flights. Current Nigerian controls at Dahomey border giving rise to perhaps even greater criticism of FMG action. Many are extremely skeptical of FMG contention that this based on smuggling activities since this common state of affairs. Coincidence of institution of ICRC operation from Dahomey followed by almost complete closing of border by FMG to control "smuggling" hardly credible.

Drafted by: WSC  
AF/CW:WSClarke:lsr

3/7/69

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

F - G. Robert Moore

Clearance

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne

AF/CW - Mr. Schaufel

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By

NARA Date

0493

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POC 27-9 BIA 72A-NIGERIA  
036953

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

37A  
10 MAR 69 23 11Z  
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Origin  
Info

ACTION: Amembassy THE HAGUE ~~PRIORITY~~  
INFO: ~~AMEMBASSY LAGOS~~  
STATE: ~~USMISSION GENEVA~~

STATE  
SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief

REF: Hague's 890 and previous

1. Dept. has no objection in principle to Embassy's sharing of information regarding surface corridors contained Lagos 1501, 15505, and 15667 and State 4204 with MFA on strictly FYI basis. However, ~~XX~~ Stephan Schott, Exec. Asst. Special Coordinator to/Ferguson and Col. A. E. Dewey, Logistics Expert attached to Ferguson's office, plan visit The Hague on March 14. Suggest feasibility surface corridors not rpt. not be discussed with MFA pending ~~XXXXXXXX~~ party's arrival.
2. Request Embassy make appointments for ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Schott and ~~XXXXX~~ Dewey for afternoon March 14 with appropriately high level of MFA for full discussions on Nigerian relief problems.
3. Please reserve two singles at Hotel des Indes for evening March 14.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by: AF/W:RWFaville:oh 3/10/69	7573	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne
Clearances: U/CF:SSchott		

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0494

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VIND 9503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Classification

10 MAR 65 20 05z

Origin

**ACTION:** Amembassy LAGOS  
**INFO:** Amembassies ABIDJAN  
ACCRA  
COTONOU  
LOME  
LONDON  
PARIS  
Amsonsul IBADAN  
US MISSION GENEVA

Info:

STATE

REFS: Lagos 2012; Cotonou 252; State 30633 (Notal)

1. Dept believes FMG response expressed para 3 Lagos 2012 does not meet basic problem. It is clear that pressure on GRD through border restrictions and elsewhere. Reported presence of Apithy in Lagos gives additional credence adding considerable fuel to dissident groups in Porto Novo area/to suspicion that FMG taking well calculated steps to upset fragile Zinsou Govt.
2. As FMG aware, question of adequate relief for Nigeria, including Biafra, is subject of deep official and private concern in US and elsewhere. Suspension of ICRC flights from Santa Isabel caused strong reaction to what was considered by many to be unjustified FMG pressure on GOEG to curtail flights. Current Nigerian controls at Dahomey border giving rise to perhaps even greater criticism of FMG action. Many are extremely skeptical of FMG contention that this based on smuggling activities since this common state of affairs. Coincidence of institution of ICRC operation from Dahomey followed by almost complete closing of border by FMG to control "smuggling" hardly credible.

Drafted by: *WSC* 3/7/69 Tel. Ext. Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: *C. Robert Moore*  
AF/CW:WSClarke:lsr  
Clearances

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne *Rm*

AF/CW - Mr. Schauffer *W-1*

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0495

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: *VND959503*  
By: *MV* NARA Date: *10/5/05*

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

3-10-69  
9608  
2096

CONFIDENTIAL 198

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02096 101645Z

42

ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,SS 20,NSC 10,AID 28,RSR 01,RSC 01,7094 W  
008158

P R 101115Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5373  
USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 2096

SUBJ: FERGUSON TRAVEL  
REF: STATE 36431

1. ENAHORO OF EXTAFF INFORMED OF FERGUSON'S ITINERARY  
PER REFTEL. AS FMG OFFICIALS DIRECTLY CONCERNED HAVE  
BEEN AWARE SINCE I DELIVERED PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO GOWON  
ON FEBRUARY 23 THAT FERGUSON WOULD VISIT BIAFRA THIS  
IS NOT LIVE ISSUE WITH FMG.

2. FOR FERGUSON. MY WIFE AND I HOPE YOU AND YOUR  
PARTY WILL STAY WITH US WHILE IN LAGOS.  
GP-4 MATHEWS

①

CONFIDENTIAL

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0496

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 671

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00734 101028Z

10  
ACTION UCF 03

INFO IO 13, AF 12, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,  
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, AID 28, SCS 04,  
SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, RSC 01, ARA 08, NEA 13, EA 10, 178 W  
006035

P R 100948Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 594  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 734

FOR FERGUSON FROM TUBBY

SUBJ: BIAFRAN OFFER NEW SITE FOR AIRSTRIP

1. LINDT REPORTS HE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM DR. JOHNSON OF CANAIR FRIDAY RE OFFER BY OJUKWU OF LAND IN MID-BIAFRA CAPABLE OF HANDLING ALL TYPES OF AIRCRAFT WHICH WOULD BE USED FOR DAY AND NIGHT RELIEF FLIGHTS.

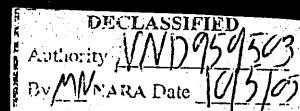
2. LINDT MET YESTERDAY WITH PRESIDENT OF CARITAS, MSGR. RODHAIN, AND WITH CHENARD OF JCA/CRS RE THIS OFFER. RODHAIN IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTANCE PROVIDED AGREEMENT REACHED WITH LAGOS. HOWEVER, CHENARD THOUGHT AIRSTRIP SHOULD BE BUILT WHETHER OR NOT LAGOS AGREED. CHURCH REPS MEETING TODAY IN PARIS TO DISCUSS FURTHER. LINDT THINKS ESSENTIAL GET LAGOS APPROVAL. HOWEVER, SAYS LAGOS MAY WELL BE OPPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORT WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN OVER AT ANY TIME BY OJUKWU FOR MILITARY PURPOSES AND WHICH IN ANY CASE WOULD BRING IN A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN CURRENCY. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT DEVELOPMENT OF AIRPORT WOULD COST APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 FOR CLEARING OF LAND, LAYING OF ASPHALT, INSTALLING BEACONS. ETC.

3. LINDT WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER USG FAVORS CONSTRUCTION SUCH AIRSTRIP FOR DAY FLIGHTS. BELIEVES THAT IF WE DO OTHER GOVTS WOULD COME ALONG. SINCE LAGOS LIKELY BE NEGATIVE, POINT SHOULD BE MADE TO GOWON RE MATTER OF FMG IMAGE. GOWON NEEDS RATIONALE FOR

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GENEVA-734  
3-10-69

0497





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00734 101028Z

USE WITH HAWKS. GENERAL ATTITUDE IN LAGOS THAT BIAFRANS CANNOT BE TRUSTED. LINDT FEELS THEREFORE THAT SATISFACTORY INSPECTION PLAN SHOULD BE OFFERED TO FMG. HE HAS CONSIDERED FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES:

A. ONE APPOINTED BY OAU, BUT RULES THIS OUT SINCE OAU UNPOPULAR WITH OJUKWU.

B. THE EMPEROR OF ETHIOPIA MIGHT NOMINATE OBSERVERS, BUT LINDT DOUBTS EMPEROR HAS FULL CONFIDENCE OF OJUKWU.

C. ICRC MIGHT PROPOSE TWO OBSERVERS FROM COUNTRIES RECOGNIZING BIAFRA AND TWO FROM COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT. LINDT CONSIDERES THIS WOULD BE UNSATISFACTORY BECAUSE OF STRONG LIKELIHOOD OF DEADLOCK.

D. SWEDEN, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND MIGHT BE ASKED TO NAME OBSERVERS BUT BELIEVES NIGERIA WOULD TAKE EXCEPTION SINCE PUBLIC OPINION IN ALL THREE OF THESE COUNTRIES IS SO STRONGLY PRO-BIAFRA.

E. LATIN AMERICANS MIGHT BE ASKED TO NAME OBSERVERS BUT LINDT BELIEVES THEY WOULD BE DISINCLINED TO GET INVOLVED IN AFRICAN SITUATION AND IN ANY CASE LAGOS AND THE OAU WOULD PROBABLY BE NEGATIVE.

F. IT MIGHT BE SUGGESTED TO U THANT THAT HE NAME REPS AND LINDT FAVORS THIS POSSIBILITY. HE BELIEVES LAGOS WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO TURN DOWN AND HE KNOWS THAT OJUKWU WOULD APPROVE.

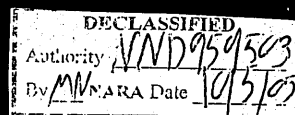
4. WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW PROPOSAL FOR A STRIP IN THE CENTRAL PART OF BIAFRA, I THINK IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE ICRC AND THE CHURCHES TOGETHER WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS IF POSSIBLE WITH THE FMG AS WELL AS WITH BIAFRA. I THINK IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN AND CHURCH GROUPS WENT AHEAD ON OWN WITHOUT ICRC PARTICIPATION.

5. LINDT HOPES YOU CAN HAVE LUNCH WITH HIM TUESDAY.

6. RITA HAUSER MOST ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU WHILE YOU ARE IN GENEVA AND HOPES THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND SOME TIME AT PALAIS MEETING HUMAN RIGHTS DELEGATES SINCE YOU ARE U.S. CANDIDATE FOR

CONFIDENTIAL

0498





*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00734 101028Z

SUBCOMMISSION ON DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES. SHE  
SAYS THERE ARE MANY CANDIDATES FOR THE SUBCOMMISSION AND THAT  
THERE IS A DANGER THAT FOR FIRST TIME US MIGHT NOT BE REPRESENTED.  
I HOPE YOU WILL HAVE DINNER WITH US THURSDAY NIGHT, A DINNER AT  
WHICH WE WILL ALSO HAVE MRS. HAUSER. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0499

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05





POL 57-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00743 101814Z

47

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SCI 05, HEW 07, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, UCF 03, RSR 01, /165 W  
008641

R 101825Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 603  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 743

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: MEASLES/SMALLPOX CAMPAIGN BIAFRA

REF: STATE 26182

1. DR. GRASSET SENDS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AID (HAVEN NORTH, DR. CURTIS, MR. ELDER) IN RESPONSE REFTEL WHICH MISSION PASSED TO HER UPON RECEIPT: QUOTE: SINCERE THANKS FOR 320,000 DOLLARS DONATION AID COVERING EXPENSES TO COMPLETE MEASLES/SMALLPOX CAMPAIGN BIAFRA. WHILE RECOGNIZING POPULATION ESTIMATES IN THIS SITUATION ARE DIFFICULT AND SOMETIMES CONTRADICTORY THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE FOR OVERALL NEEDS OF 1,500,000 MEASLES AND 7,000,000 SMALLPOX DOSES APPEARS TO BE QUITE ADEQUATE. CONFIRM ICRC WILL REQUEST SECOND TRANCHE 150,000 US DOLLARS. SHALL SEND MONTHLY REPORT AND ACCOUNT PURCHASES. CONCERNING POTENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF BDG FOR ANTITUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN AND BIAFRA CAPACITY TO MANUFACTURE BIOLOGICALS HAVE CONSULTED EXPERTS. OPINION IS THAT BDG ADVISABLE FOR CHILD POPULATION UNDER TEN YEARS BUT ONLY AFTER TERMINATION MEASLES CAMPAIGN. AM WAITING FOR ANSWER MY LETTER TO DR. CHAMBON BDG PEDOUET EXPERT IN DAKAR AND HAVE STILL TO DISCUSS QUESTION WITH DR. MAHLER BDG EXPERT WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ON HIS RETURN AFRICA 24 MARCH. I SHALL THEN GO TO BIAFRA FOR 10 DAYS AND AFTER INVESTIGATION ON SPOT SHALL REPORT ON BOTH QUESTIONS TO AID ON APRIL 7. IF BDG VACCINATION ALSO NEEDED IN NIGERIA ICRC COULD HELP CAMPAIGN IF REQUIRED. SINGED GRASSET INTERCROIXROUGE. UNQUOTE

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32

GENEVA  
3-10 69  
743

0500

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By M. NARA Date 10/5/05



*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02: GENEVA 00743 101814Z

2. MISSION WILL FORWARD "MONTHLY REPORT AND ACCOUNT PURCHASES"  
AS SOON AS RECEIVED.  
TUBBY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

0501

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: 100-959503  
By: MM NARA Date: 10/5/05

POC 27-9 | BIAPRA-NIGERIA

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**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

### Classification

IMMEDIATE

### Origin

ACTION: Amembassy GENEVA ~~IMMEDIATE~~ ~~PRIORITY~~ ~~IMMEDIATE~~  
Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
Amembassy COTONOU ~~PRIORITY~~ ~~IMMEDIATE~~  
Amembassy ADDIS ABABA ~~PRIORITY~~ ~~IMMEDIATE~~  
Amembassy ROME ~~PRIORITY~~ ~~IMMEDIATE~~

### Info:

STATE

SUBJECT: TRAVEL: C. Clyde Ferguson, Jr.

1. There follows the anticipated itinerary of C. Clyde Ferguson, Jr., Special Coordinator on relief to the civilian victims of the Nigerian Civil War. Specific flight details will be sent in separate message.

LV: Washington - March 10

AR: Geneva - March 11

XX

LV: Geneva March 14

AR: Lagos - March 15

LV: Lagos - March 19

AR: Cotonou - March 19

LV: Cotonou - March 21

AR: Uli (Biafra) March 21

Prepared by:

AP: Sherry/Amb. Moore: chg: 3/8/69

	Tel.	Ext.
Mr. Tolson	4000	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	4000	
Mr. Clegg	4000	
Mr. Glavin	4000	
Mr. Ladd	4000	
Mr. Nichols	4000	
Mr. Rosen	4000	
Mr. Tracy	4000	
Mr. Carson	4000	
Mr. Egan	4000	
Mr. Gurnea	4000	
Mr. Hendon	4000	
Mr. Pennington	4000	
Mr. Quinn	4000	
Mr. Nease	4000	
Miss Gandy	4000	

### Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: AF - Mr. Palmer

**Clearances:**

U/CF - Mr. Schott

S/S - Mr. Gleysteen

CONFIDENTIAL

### Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0502

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Authority: VND 6/50/50  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/0

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Page 2 to Amembassy Geneva, Lagos, Cotonou, Addis, Rome

ACTION:

LV: Uli (Biafra) March 24

AR: Cotonou - March 24

LV: Cotonou - March 25

AR: Lagos - March 25

LV: Lagos - March 26

AR: Addis Ababa - March 27

LV: Addis Ababa - March 28

AR: ROME March 29

LV: Rome March 29

AR: GENEVA March 29

LV: Geneva - March 31

AR: Washington - April 1

2. FOR LAGOS: We expect press statement on Ferguson's trip will be issued <sup>in Washington</sup> Monday noon, March 10. Whether or not it includes reference to his intention visit Biafra, press can be counted on to bring out this fact which should not come as surprise to FMG. Such a visit was ~~foreshadowed~~ foreshadowed in President's Feb. 22 letter to Gowon ~~and~~ and in his Feb. 22 statement on Ferguson's

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.:

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0503

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 954503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

*Classification*

Page 3 to AMEMBASSY GENEVA, LAGOS, COTONOU, ADDIS AND ROME

Origin

ACTION:

Info:

appointment. Moreover Assistant Secretary Palmer alluded

to ~~the~~ Ferguson's intention during Enahoro's March 5 call  
 (STATE 36410).

3. Nevertheless, it may be desirable for Ambassador, and he  
 so authorized in his discretion, to inform FMG of Ferguson's  
 intention visit Biafra and of likelihood that press will soon  
 be referring to such visit. Although Ambassador is free make  
 any necessary explanations re importance we attach visit Biafra,  
 it should be made clear that issue is not negotiable.

end

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
 classification approved by:

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

*Classification*

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0504

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority VND 954543  
 By MVA Date 10/5/05

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

57

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

036388

18A

8 MAR 69 15 57z

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin  
Info:

## ACTION:

TO: A. V. Duch, Chief of Flight Operations  
and  
O. J. Fareed  
Joint Church Aid  
Sao Tome  
Portuguese West Africa

The President has asked that I reply to your cable on the C-97 airlift. I have been advised of your difficulties and have consulted with Flight Test Research and Joint Church Aid. We are working urgently on solutions to the problems you raised and assure you that we are vitally concerned effective operation of airlift. We will keep you informed of developments.

C. CLYDE FERGUSON  
SPECIAL COORDINATOR ON RELIEF  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

36388

POL 21-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Drafted by: U/CF:SSchott  
Tel. Ext. 8175  
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: U/CF - C. Clyde Ferguson

## Clearances:

①

AFR/CWA:HNorth

AF/W:RMelbourne

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0505

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 959503  
By: MVA Date: 10/3/05

(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
XR DEF 12-5 BIAFRA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 281

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00242 081659Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, UCF 03, CIAE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,  
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01,  
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 184 W  
001081

R 081535Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2405  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY DARI ES SALAAMI  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
CINCSRIKE  
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL I A L LIBREVILLE 242

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. OUR OBSERVATION PAST FEW DAYS INDICATES LOW LEVEL  
AIRLIFT ACTIVITY, ONLY FLIGHTS WE REASONABLY SURE ABOUT  
BEING DC-4 F-BRHO NIGHTS MAR 4-5 AND MAR 7-8 AND DI-6  
OO-HEX NIGHT MAR 6-7. LATTER WAS ALSO ABSENT PRIOR TO 1800  
MAR 7 AND BACK IN BY 0700 MAR 8.

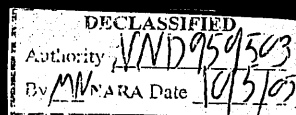
2. CONSTELLATION TR-LNY, ABSENT SINCE FEB 16, CAME IN  
TO LIBREVILLE SOMETIME BEFORE 0700 MAR 4 BUT DEPARTED  
BY END OF DAY AND HAS NOT RETURNED. FRENCH AIRFORCE  
DC-6 MARKED 64-PL IN MILITARY AREA AS OF 0700 MAR 8.  
DC-4 WHITE WITH RED FUSELAGE STRIPE, ON CIVILIANSIDE  
AT 0700 MAR 8, UNABLE AS YET PROVIDE REGISTRATION.

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL

3-8-69  
Libreville 242

0506





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIBREV 00242 081659Z

3. WE HAVE EARLIER POINTED OUT DIFFICULTY OF MAKING ACCURATE CHECK ON AIRLIFT AND FLIGHTS OTHER THAN THOSE NOTED QUITE POSSIBLE. BUT IF UNOBSERVED FLIGHTS NUMEROUS, EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES NOW BEING TAKEN IN PARKING PLANES TO GIVE IMPRESSION THEY HAVE NOT MOVED OVERNIGHT. NOTE THAT TIME CORRESPONDENT JAMES WILDE SAID IN BBC INTERVIEW AT BEGINNING OF WEEK HE HAD JUST COME FROM BIAFRA AND ARMS PLANES STILL COMING IN FROM GABON AT RATE 2 OR 3 PER NIGHT. WHILE WE CERTAINLY HAVE MISSED SOME FLIGHTS, SUCH LEVEL AIRLIFT ACTIVITY LIBREVILLE DOUBTFUL. POSSIBLE PORT GENTILI NOW ALSO BEING USED BUT HAVE NO INDICATIONS THIS IS CASE. PERHAPS CLOSER TO TRUTH IS "BEST INFO" OF OFTEN INFORMED PUBLICATION AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL FEB 28 THAT "AVERAGE OF BETWEEN ONE AND TWO ARMS FLIGHTS A NIGHT COME IN FROM LIBREVILLE, ABIDJAN OR LISBON". GP 3. BANE

CONFIDENTIAL

0507

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VMD 959503  
By: MM NARA Date: 10/5/05





POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
Department of State  
NIGERIA **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 154

PAGE: 01 GENEVA, 00733. 081234Z

16.  
ACTION UCF 03

INFO: AFI 12, EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, RSR 01, 147 W

000410

R 081144Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 593  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USUN NEW YORK 2839  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 733

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

FOR: FERGUSON FROM: TUBBY

1. HENRIK BEER, SEC GEN LICROSS, LOOKS FORWARD MEETING WITH YOU MARCH 13 AT 3:00 P.M. REPORTS HE IS MOST ENCOURAGED BY FIRST CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD YESTERDAY AFTERNOON UNDER FREYMOND'S CHAIRMANSHIP AT ICRC. SESSION LASTED FOUR HOURS AND THERE WERE MANY CANDID EXCHANGES, DETAILS OF WHICH WILL BE GIVEN YOU ON YOUR ARRIVAL. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MARCH 26.

2. IT WAS AGREED THAT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PUSHING DAY FLIGHTS. PREFERENCE WAS EXPRESSED IN FAVOR OF OBILAGO OVER USE OF THE WATERWAYS. THERE WAS CONCERN RE CANADAIR PROPOSED OPERATIONS IN BIAFRA. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT THERE MUST BE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN ICRC, LICROSS, AND JCA/CRS BOTH TO MAKE RELIEF OPERATION MORE EFFICIENT AND TO AVOID OJUKWU'S PLAYING OFF OF ONE GROUP AGAINST ANOTHER.

3. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THERE BE A MEETING OF AFRICAN REPS IN GENEVA. IT WAS AGREED THAT ICRC REQUEST TO CAMEROON TO SPONSOR

CONFIDENTIAL 22

GENEVA-733  
3-869

0508

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VNO959503  
By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00733 081234Z

SUCH A MEETING, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY GFRC, WAS A MISTAKE.

4. FREYMOND REVIEWED NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SETUP IN ICRC WHICH BEER BELIEVES WILL BE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE. FREYMOND ALSO REPORTED ON FORTHCOMING APPOINTMENT HIGH-RANKING PRESS CHIEF WHO WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM AND COOPERATE WITH NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT THE LATTER SHOULD DO A MORE EFFECTIVE JOB.

5. BEER SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN A CORDIAL MEETING WITH DUTCH REPS AT THE ICRC CONCERNING THE LUNS PLAN, BUT THE GENERAL FEELING IS THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO PROCEED ALONG THE LINES BEING DEVELOPED BY THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0509

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: <i>VND959503</i>
By: <i>MM</i> NARA Date: <i>10/5/05</i>

37  
COPIES TO:

AF

AFW

S/S-RF

Microfilm.

RS/R FILES

Attention Mrs. Inglett  
Keep this study together.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE S/S 3057

WASHINGTON

S-C-121

This document released to  
public per J. Bishop AF

March 8, 1969

9/11/75

Dear Bishop Swanstrom:

The President has asked me to reply to your telegrams of February 12 and 13 sent on behalf of you and your colleagues in Joint Church Aid, USA.

We all share your profound concern over the suffering caused by the Nigerian civil war. The appointment on February 22 of Mr. Ferguson as Special Coordinator on relief is the direct result of the President's personal concern that the United States Government do all within its power to see that the innocent civilian victims of the war are provided the food and medical supplies necessary to life.

As you are aware, we have frequently raised with the FMG questions concerning the many obstacles that have arisen in connection with night relief flights into Biafran-controlled territory. We have, of course, expressed our concern to the FMG over the most recent obstacle you mention--the harassment of your relief flights at Uli airstrip--as well.

The essential problem remains, however, that in the absence of daylight relief flights, and as long as arms flights are intermixed with night relief flights at Uli, the airfield will remain in Federal eyes a legitimate military target.

We are deeply concerned, as I know you are, that the starvation problem may become more severe in the months ahead. Clearly, night flights along the lines of the present operation will be insufficient if the greater problem develops. It is surely incumbent on all parties concerned with meeting the relief needs to urge both sides to work out more practicable relief arrangements.

The Most Reverend  
Edward E. Swanstrom,  
Executive Director,  
Catholic Relief Services,  
350 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

①  
MICROFILMED  
BY S/S: CMS

AF/W: RPSmith

Clearance:  
AF-Mr. Palmer

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0510

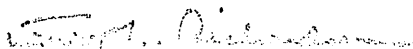
DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 95/503  
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

We continue to believe that one important step in this direction would be agreement by both sides on some plan for daylight relief flights. As you know, we have publicly and privately urged Biafran authorities to agree to such daylight flights. The FNG has recently assured us again that its offer of daylight relief flights into Uli remains valid. I suggest that Biafran agreement would constitute the most effective assurance that relief flights get through. I therefore urge you and your colleagues in Joint Church Aid to use your influence with the Biafran authorities toward that end.

You state in your first telegram that your organization is contemplating the use of a second airstrip which is presently available. Recent press reports indicate that a private Canadian relief agency has now obtained agreement to complete work on that airstrip and to utilize it for relief purposes. We would appreciate whatever additional information you have on this subject.

You may be assured of our continuing desire to be as helpful as possible in the relief effort.

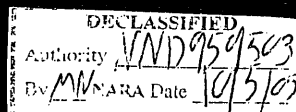
Sincerely,

  
Elliot L. Richardson

Clearance:  
AF-Mr. Palmer

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 3/5/69

0511



37

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

3057

TO: The Under Secretary *JPW* ✓ March 7, 1969  
THROUGH: S/S  
FROM: AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd *JP*  
SUBJECT: Letter for the Under Secretary's Signature: Reply to  
Bishop Swanstrom's Telegrams to the President Concerning  
Nigeria Relief - ACTION MEMORANDUM

DISCUSSION:

Bishop Swanstrom, Executive Director of Catholic Relief Services and President of Joint Church Aid, USA, sent telegrams to the President on February 12 and 13 complaining of harassment of relief aircraft by Nigerian Air Force planes. We believe a reply over your signature would emphasize to Bishop Swanstrom the importance the Administration attaches to the problem he raises. A suggested reply was sent to the White House for approval on February 20 (Tab B). It has now been approved, including changes in the text to incorporate the appointment of Mr. Ferguson as Special Coordinator.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached letter to Bishop Swanstrom (Tab A).

Attachments:

- Tab A - Letter to Bishop Swanstrom
- Tab B - Telegrams from Bishop Swanstrom and Suggested Reply

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

(1)

*JPW*  
AF/W:RPSmith:ba 3/6/69

0512

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VIND 959503  
By: MWA Date: 10/3/05

AF/W

f ~~245~~

KU26 VN02255 (42)A3199

1969 FEB 13 PM 8 41

A 03319 UY P03 5 EXTRA NEW YORK NY 13 544P EST

SECRETARY OF STATE HON WILLIAM ROBERTS

STATEDEPT WASHDC

FURTHER TO MY URGENT LINE OF YESTERDAY I NOW RESPECTFULLY ADVISE  
THAT NIGERIAN HARRASSMENT OF RELIEF PLANES AT THE ULI AIR STRIP  
HAS REACHED SUCH PROPORTIONS THAT AS OF LAST NIGHT THE MERCY  
AIR LIFT FROM ABC TONE CAME TO ALMOST A COMPLETE HALT. I RESPECTFULLY  
URGE THEREFORE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT INCLUDE A REQUEST THAT THE  
HARRASSMENT OF RELIEF PLANES BRINGING NEEDED SUSTINANCE AND  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO STARVING WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE BLOCKADED  
AREA IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY CEASE AT ONCE. I AM CERTAIN YOUR  
GOOD EFFORTS TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF OTHER SYMPATHETIC GOVERNMENTS  
CAN ACHIEVE THE DESIRED END. RESPECT REGARDS AND THANKS

BISHOP EDWARD E STANSTROM PRESIDENT JOINT CHURCHAID USA EMPIRE  
STATE BLDG NYC

23 FEB 24 AM 11 00

AF  
MESSAGE CENTER

23 FEB 16 PM 5 00

OUT - PBR  
CORRESPONDENCE CENTER

POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA

(7840P EST

0513

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VMD 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/03

TO: The Under Secretary

MAR 7 1969

THROUGH: S/S

FROM: AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd

SUBJECT: Letter for the Under Secretary's Signature: Reply to  
Bishop Swanstrom's Telegrams to the President Concerning  
Nigeria Relief - ACTION MEMORANDUM

DISCUSSION:

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RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached letter to Bishop Swanstrom (Tab A).

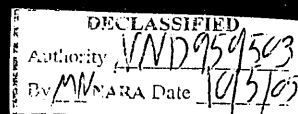
Attachments:

- Tab A - Letter to Bishop Swanstrom
- Tab B - Telegrams from Bishop Swanstrom and  
Suggested Reply

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 3/6/69

POC 27-9 BIAFKA-MGEM

0514



Dear Bishop Swanstrom:

The President has asked me to reply to your telegrams of February 12 and 13 sent on behalf of you and your colleagues in Joint Church Aid, USA.

We all share your profound concern over the suffering caused by the Nigerian civil war. The appointment on February 22 of Mr. Ferguson as Special Coordinator on relief is the direct result of the President's personal concern that the United States Government do all within its power to see that the innocent civilian victims of the war are provided the food and medical supplies necessary to life.

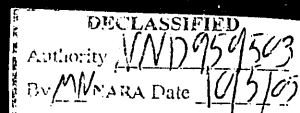
As you are aware, we have frequently raised with the FMG questions concerning the many obstacles that have arisen in connection with night relief flights into Biafran-controlled territory. We have, of course, expressed our concern to the FMG over the most recent obstacle you mention--the harassment of your relief flights at Uli airstrip--as well.

The essential problem remains, however, that in the absence of daylight relief flights, and as long as arms flights are intermixed with night relief flights at Uli, the airfield will remain in Federal eyes a legitimate military target.

We are deeply concerned, as I know you are, that the starvation problem may become more severe in the months ahead. Clearly, night flights along the lines of the present operation will be insufficient if the greater problem develops. It is surely incumbent on all parties concerned with meeting the relief needs to urge both sides to work out more practicable relief arrangements.

The Most Reverend  
Edward E. Swanstrom,  
Executive Director,  
Catholic Relief Services,  
350 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

0515





We continue to believe that one important step in this direction would be agreement by both sides on some plan for daylight relief flights. As you know, we have publicly and privately urged Biafran authorities to agree to such daylight flights. The FMG has recently assured us again that its offer of daylight relief flights into Uli remains valid. I suggest that Biafran agreement would constitute the most effective assurance that relief flights get through. I therefore urge you and your colleagues in Joint Church Aid to use your influence with the Biafran authorities toward that end.

You state in your first telegram that your organization is contemplating the use of a second airstrip which is presently available. Recent press reports indicate that a private Canadian relief agency has now obtained agreement to complete work on that airstrip and to utilize it for relief purposes. We would appreciate whatever additional information you have on this subject.

You may be assured of our continuing desire to be as helpful as possible in the relief effort.

Sincerely,

Elliot L. Richardson

Clearance:

AF-Mr. Palmer

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 3/5/69

0516

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 04/3/05



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

RS/R FILES

Attention *Mrs. Mullett*  
Keep this study together.

February 20, 1969

-1866-1867

*X-3057*  
Cleared by Dick Moose  
to RLBrown 3/7/69.

AF informed. 3/7/69 *G*

COPIES TO:  
S/S:RF  
AF  
AF/W  
U

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY J. KISSINGER  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Suggested Response to Bishop Swanstrom's  
Telegrams to the President

Enclosed are two telegrams to the President from Bishop  
Swanstrom concerning harassment of relief aircraft by Nigerian  
planes and our recommendation for a response by the Under  
Secretary.

*Alan Parker*  
John P. Walsh  
Acting Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Suggested reply
2. Telegrams from Bishop Swanstrom

Clearances:

AF-Mr. Palmer  
U-Mr. Richardson  
S/S -

MICROFILMED  
BY S/S: CMS

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 2/19/69

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0517

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *VND 959503*  
By *MM* NARA Date *10/5/05*

THE WHITE HOUSE

14/1/67  
1866

TO: Mr. Ben Read

FROM: Mr. Richard Moose

For recommendation.

0518

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

Mr. [illegible]  
Washington

1866

1969 FEB 13 AM 1 58

WAO19 DN NL PDB

NEW YORK NY 12

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

CONTINUANCE AND FUTURE OF AIRLIFT UNDER JOINT CHURCH AUSPICES  
THREATENED BY RECENT STRAFINGS BY NIGERIAN MILITARY FORCES

- 3 RESPECTFULLY URGE YOU THROUGH OUR STATE DEPARTMENT TO SEEK AND  
IF NECESSARY THROUGH GOOD OFFICES OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE.  
AND ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN STATES ASSURANCE FROM NIGERIAN
- 2 GOVERNMENT OF FREEDOM FROM MILITARY HARASSMENT IN OUR USE OF

SECOND AIRSTRIP PRESENTLY AVAILABLE WITH OUR GUARANTEE THAT  
IT WOULD BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR AIRLIFT SUPPLIES UNDER ANY  
INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION MUTUALLY AGREED UPON PENDING CEASE  
FIRE OR SOME OTHER SATISFACTORY SOLUTION THIS SEEMS ONLY MEANS  
BY WHICH CHURCH AGENCIES CAN CONTINUE TO LIMIT DEATH BY  
STARVATION INCREASING NUMBERS POPULATION BIAFRA AREA

- 3 FOR JOIN CHURCH AID USA BISHOP SWANSTROM JAMES  
MACCRACKEN RABBI TANENBAUM.

2

0519

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

THE WHITE HOUSE

February 14, 1969

1967

TO: Mr. Ben Read

FROM: Mr. Richard Moose

For recommendation.

0520

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

1867

1969 FEB 14 AM 1 00

WA003 (HU) DN PDB 5 EXTRA

NEW YORK NY 13 545P EST

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

FURTHER TO MY URGENT WIRE OF YESTERDAY I NOW RESPECTFULLY

ADVISE THAT NIGERIAN HARASSMENT OF RELIEF PLANES AT THE ULI AIR STRIP  
HAS REACHED SUCH PROPORTIONS THAT AS OF LAST NIGHT THE MERCY AIR  
LIFT FROM SAO TOME CAME TO ALMOST A COMPLETE HALT.

I RESPECTFULLY URGE THEREFORE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT IN MAKING  
REPRESENTATIONS TO THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT INCLUDE A REQUEST

THAT THE HARASSMENT OF RELIEF PLANES BRINGING NEEDED SUSTINANCE AND  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO STARVING WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE BLOCKADED  
AREA IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY CEASE AT ONCE. I AM CERTAIN YOUR GOOD  
EFFORTS TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF OTHER SYMPATHETIC GOVERNMENTS CAN  
ACHIEVE THE DESIRED END. RESPECT, REGARDS, AND THANKS

-BISHOP EDWARD E SWANSTON PRESIDENT JOINT CHURCH AID USA  
EMPIRE STATE BLDG NYK.

0521

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 954503  
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

CONTROL NO. **AFW**  
S/S 1867  
S/S 1866

DATE 2/14/69

urging U.S. govt intervention.  
XXXX Prepare a Read to Kissinger  
memo enclosing or containing:

MEMO DATED 11/11/1964 ON CONCOMITANT  
STRENGTHENING OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE

Draft reply for President's signature.

Draft reply for signature by

Memo for use as enclosure to reply  
by White House.

XXXXXX Comment or recommendation.  
Comment or

Direct reply:

Furnish information copy under  
cover of a Read to \_\_\_\_\_  
memo.

Comeback copy required for S/S.

Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling:

Furnish information copy of  
reply, if any, under cover of  
a Read to memo.

Refer to White House request of

FYI

Due in S/S by (2-18-69)

## NOTES

1. White House referrals must be answered within 48 hours unless otherwise noted. If deadline cannot be met, inform S/S immediately at extension given below.
2. Direct replies to White House mail must be signed at the Assistant or Acting Assistant Secretary level.
3. Unless otherwise noted, direct replies, depending upon the addressee of the incoming letter, must begin: "The President has asked me to reply" or "Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ has asked me to reply".
4. Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum or comment or comeback copy for the White House is requested.

REMARKS

COPIES TO:

AID - Mr. Hummon (w/att)

Alan Parker

Secretariat Staff  
Ext. 6952

DECLASSIFIED

Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 01/5/00

5-C-121  
This document released to  
public per *J. Bishop AF*  
9/11/75

MARCH 5, 1969

Honorable John C. Watts  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Watts:

The Secretary of State has asked me to reply to your note of February 11 enclosing a letter from Mr. Edward Patton about the Nigerian situation.

The Department of State shares your concern and that of your constituent about the suffering caused on both sides of the fighting lines of the Nigerian civil war. We shall continue to do all within our power to alleviate this suffering. American sources have provided over \$30 million or 60 percent of the financing of the relief provided up to the middle of this month. Of this figure, five-sixths has been provided by the United States Government. It is our purpose to increase the flow of relief supplies to the maximum, as well as to do everything we can to encourage a negotiated settlement of this conflict.

On February 22, President Nixon referred to the deep anguish felt by this nation for the terrible suffering in Nigeria and announced that the Secretary of State had at his direction appointed a Special Coordinator for relief. A press release concerning the Special Coordinator is enclosed.

I am enclosing current information on the situation, including our relief efforts. I appreciate your interest in the Nigerian problem and shall be happy to provide any additional information you may desire.

Sincerely,

*W*  
William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosures

AF/WRRW:chg: 2/22/69  
Retyped:bal:2/28/69  
*Pec H*

Clearances:

AF - Amb. Moore  
H - Mr. Leahy  
*J. Bishop / J. W.*

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

0523

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *VND 959503*  
By *MW* NARA Date *9/3/05*



FORM 12-63 DS-1563

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

**ACTION SLIP**

(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

AFW  
1884

TO AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE 2/17/69

SUBJECT Ltr to S fm John C. Watts dtd 2/11 re enclosing CC of ltr fm Mr. Edward Patton re Biafra.

**ACTION**

\*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required.

XXXXXXXX A response for signature by HK H - Amb. Macomber  
Prepare reply. Clear with

Prepare a to

Refer to White House request of

Due in <sup>H</sup> ~~S/S~~ by 2/20/69  
XXXXXX

For your information.

REMARKS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
1969 FEB 18 AM 10 20  
OFFICE OF THE ASST.  
SECRETARY - AF

COPIES TO

S - Mr. Moffat  
H - Mr. Briggs  
IO - Mr. Sena  
P - Mr. Cheshes

*gk*  
George Kelly  
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT. 4735

0524

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VIND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

JOHN C. WATTS  
SIXTH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

MEMBER OF  
COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.  
February 11, 1969

ACTION  
is assigned to

PIPS

1884

Honorable William Rogers  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed letter from  
Mr. Edward Patton of Frankfort, Kentucky, along with  
my strong recommendation that the State Department  
consider possibilities of providing humanitarian as-  
sistance to Biafra.

I shall look forward to receiving any comments  
you may wish to make concerning possible action under  
consideration by the State Department.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

*John C. Watts*

RECEIVED  
FEBRUARY 11 1969

NOTED  
FEB 11 1969

ADVISOR  
FEB 11 1969

3  
2/14/69

Encl. att.

5113

NOTIFIED BY 65/1

COL 27-9  
Biafra  
#5  
Mugleris

0525

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 954503  
By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/05

46

5-C-121 9/11/75

This document released to  
public per J. Bishop AF

MARCH 5, 1969

Honorable Frank Annunzio  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Annunzio:

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA

Secretary Rogers has asked that I reply to your inquiry dated January 21 regarding your constituents concern about the situation in Nigeria and the plight of the Biafran people. I sincerely regret the delay in this reply.

On repeated occasions since May 1968, American sympathy has been officially expressed for the suffering victims of the civil war on both sides of the fighting lines. On February 22, 1969 President Nixon, reiterating the deep concern of the nation for the terrible human suffering in the civil war, announced the appointment by the Secretary of State of Mr. Clarence C. Ferguson, Jr. as Special Coordinator to assure that the US contributions to the international relief effort for Nigeria/Biafra are effectively utilized.

Complex humanitarian, political and military factors complicate this situation and we have endeavored to avoid politico-military involvement by channeling our support for the relief effort through the non-political International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and through UNICEF and American voluntary relief agencies.

American support for the international relief effort in Nigeria/Biafra now totals over \$32 million in cash, food and medical and other supplies with the US Government donating \$25 million and American private voluntary agencies donating more than \$7.2 million. Since December 27 we have sold at nominal cost eight C-97G cargo planes to the ICRC and American voluntary agencies for airlift purposes.

Some of your constituents have also suggested that the United States Government issue a statement of sympathy for the people of Biafra.

A speaker on a recent nationwide telecast suggested that the issuance of a formal statement of sympathy for the Biafrans by the United States Government would quickly bring the Nigerian Government to the negotiating table. The US Government has fully demonstrated its

①

P/PS / PCD: K DURKIN: hcm  
3/4/69

POL 27-9 BIAFRA- NIGERIA

0526

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

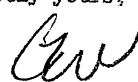
-2-

sympathy by contributing more than \$25 million in cash and food supplies to the relief effort. We believe, however, that a formal statement singling out the Biafrans for sympathy would not serve a useful purpose. It is difficult to see how such a statement could contribute to peace in Nigeria. It would overlook the fact that many thousands of victims of the conflict in areas controlled by the Nigerian Government are in need of help and that the Government has stated its willingness to resume negotiations at any time. The United States will continue in its relief efforts to follow a policy directed to the needs of all the victims of the civil war and will vigorously support any diplomatic effort that offers hope of bringing about a peaceful settlement.

I am enclosing a copy of a Department statement which details our participation in the relief effort and explains US policy on such points as allegations of genocide, arms for the contestants, possible UN action, etc.

Please continue to call upon us whenever you believe that we may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,



William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

1. Correspondence returned.
2. Material as stated.

P7PS/PCD:KDurkin:bcm

H#1193

lang. prev. clrd. by S

3/4/69

0527

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/03

46  
Honorable Frank Annunzio  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Annunzio:

I  
Secretary Rogers has asked that I reply to your inquiry dated January 21 regarding your constituents' concern about the situation in Nigeria and the plight of the Biafran people. I sincerely regret the delay in this reply.

On repeated occasions since May 1968, American sympathy has been officially expressed for the suffering victims of the civil war on both sides of the fighting lines. On February 22, 1969 President Nixon, reiterating the deep concern of the nation for the terrible human suffering in the civil war, announced the appointment by the Secretary of State of Mr. Clarence C. Ferguson, Jr. as Special Coordinator to assure that the US contributions to the international relief effort for Nigeria/Biafra are effectively utilized.

Complex humanitarian, political and military factors complicate this situation and we have endeavored to avoid politico-military involvement by channeling our support for the relief effort through the non-political International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and through UNICEF and American voluntary relief agencies.

American support for the international relief effort in Nigeria/Biafra now totals over \$32 million in cash, food and medical and other supplies with the US Government donating \$25 million and American private voluntary agencies donating more than \$7.2 million. Since December 27 we have sold at nominal cost eight C-97G cargo planes to the ICRC and American voluntary agencies for airlift purposes.

Some of your constituents have also suggested that the United States Government issue a statement of sympathy for the people of Biafra.

A speaker on a recent nationwide telecast suggested that the issuance of a formal statement of sympathy for the Biafrans by the United States Government would quickly bring the Nigerian Government to the negotiating table. ~~On repeated occasions since May 1968, American sympathy has been expressed for the suffering victims of the civil war on both sides of the fighting lines.~~

File 27-9 BIAFRAN - NIGERIA

0528

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VMD 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05

~~The situation in Nigeria/Biafra, in all its aspects, does not lend itself to detailed discussion in a letter.~~ The US Government has fully demonstrated its sympathy by contributing more than \$25 million in cash and food supplies to the relief effort. We believe, however, that a formal statement singling out the Biafrans for sympathy would not serve a useful purpose. It is difficult to see how such a statement could contribute to peace in Nigeria. It would overlook the fact that many thousands of victims of the conflict in areas controlled by the Nigerian Government are in need of help and that the Government has stated its willingness to resume negotiations at any time. The United States will continue in its relief efforts to follow a policy directed to the needs of all the victims of the civil war and will vigorously support any diplomatic effort that offers hope of bringing about a peaceful settlement.

~~The situation in Nigeria/Biafra, in all its aspects, does not lend itself to detailed discussion in a letter.~~ I am enclosing a copy of a Department statement which details our participation in the relief effort and explains US policy on such points as allegations of genocide, arms for the contestants, possible UN action, etc. ~~I hope you find this statement informative.~~

Please continue to call upon ~~me~~ whenever you believe that we may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

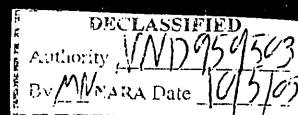
1. Correspondence returned.
2. Material as stated.

P/PS/PCD:KDurkin:bcm

H#1193

lang. prev. clrd. by S 3/3/69

0529



46  
Honorable Frank Annunzio  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Annunzio:

The Secretary of State ~~has~~ asked that I reply to your letter of January 21, 1969 concerning United States policy towards Biafra, the former Eastern Region of Nigeria which has declared its independence. *I sincerely regret the delay in this reply.*

Officials of our Government have been deeply distressed by the starvation and suffering of innocent civilians on both sides of the fighting line in this war. In addition to giving large scale practical assistance to alleviate the suffering, the United States Government has also extended all feasible support to efforts which could lead to an end or suspension of hostilities. Top Government officials, including President Nixon and former President Johnson, have expressed their deep sympathy for the suffering victims of the war. A compilation of some of these statements is enclosed for your information.

The United States' contribution to Nigerian relief, both public and private, totals more than \$30 million to date. This amounts to more than half of the global contribution to the international relief effort in Nigeria by UN agencies and some forty countries. Of the United States' contribution, the Government has provided \$24 million in food and other relief supplies as well as cash to help finance the operations of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and freight costs for relief supplies donated by American voluntary agencies primarily for Biafran relief.

The international relief effort now reaches more than 850,000 civilians in Federal-controlled territory and at least 1,500,000 civilians in the Biafran area. There is no doubt that it has made a very significant contribution in bringing down the death rate from malnutrition from the high point of last summer. Despite this massive effort by the United States and the world community, starvation in the Biafran-held area may approach far more serious proportions in the next few months as a result of the progressive decline in stocks of locally-produced carbohydrates. In light of this factor, on December 27 the United States Government offered eight C-97G cargo aircraft no longer needed by it -- four to the ICRC and four to the American voluntary agencies participating in Joint Church Aid. This will help increase the flow of needed

Pol 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

0530

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA
Date	10/5/03

relief supplies, and we and others are continuing to explore all other possibilities to the same end.

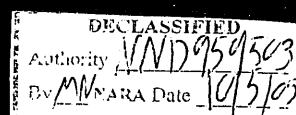
The basic problem in the relief effort is not the unavailability of food, money and transport from abroad but rather the means of delivery of relief supplies. Access to the Biafran enclave is possible only through or over Federal-held territory, hence any effective and sustained relief effort requires the cooperation or, as a minimum, the acquiescence of both sides. Although it is generally accepted that only overland transportation will permit relief supplies in adequate quantities to reach those in need in the Biafran-held territory, the Nigerian Government and Biafran authorities have not to date reached agreement on a mutually acceptable route. Nor has it been possible for the two sides to agree on arrangements for daylight relief flights which would permit an increase in the flow of relief supplies.

In view of the sheer magnitude of the relief effort and in the absence of land access for relief supplies, the suffering in the Biafran-held territory at best can only be alleviated and not overcome by the emergency airlift in operation despite the dedicated efforts of humanitarian-inspired people in this country and abroad. Our Government has strongly supported every feasible effort leading to a negotiated settlement of the conflict or to a ceasefire. These efforts so far have foundered on the demand of the Biafran leaders for independence and on the insistence of the Federal Nigerian Government for a single Nigeria.

Regarding suggestions that the Nigerian crisis be considered by the United Nations, we have seriously explored this possibility in consultation with other governments and with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The great majority of member states view the crisis as an internal political problem of civil war and secession, and have been opposed to formal United Nations consideration. This includes almost all of the African States. In the September 13 meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Algiers they passed a resolution by the overwhelming majority of 33-4, confirming their earlier position that the Nigerian problem should be treated in an African context and calling on member states of the United Nations to refrain from any action "detrimental to the peace, unity and territorial integrity of Nigeria."

We are, however, keeping the possibility of United Nations action under continuing review in our search for practical measures to alleviate the suffering and to bring about the resolution on a satisfactory basis of this tragic situation.

0531





- 3 -

As we continue to concern ourselves with this problem, you may be assured that the United States Government will continue to express its sympathy for the suffering people we are trying to help. We are not able alone to impose a solution, but we continue to hope for an early negotiated end to the conflict.

Sincerely yours,

William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Paper on the Nigerian Relief Problem: Compilation of  
United States Statements on Nigeria

Clearances:

Nigeria Task Force: RMMelbourne  
H: Mr. Leahy  
AF: Ambassador Moore

*if cleared by McNamara  
view NSC paper now  
pending.*

AF/W: R. Wach: vcs: X2946: 1/28/69  
Page 1 retyped: 1/31/69: vcs  
Page 3 retyped: 2/4/69: vcs  
S/S #227

0532

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority WMD 959503  
By MM NARA Date 10/5/05

Form DS-1563  
12-63

466  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

**ACTION SLIP**  
(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

227

APW

TO

AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE

1/23/69

SUBJECT Ltr to the Secy fm Frank Annunzio (MC) dtd 1/21 expressing dismay over the US' official position on the Republic of Biafra.

**ACTION**

\*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required \_\_\_\_\_.

Prepare reply.

A response for signature by ~~the~~ H - Amb. Macomber

Clear with \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Refer to White House request of \_\_\_\_\_

Due in <sup>H</sup> ~~S/S~~ by 1/27/69

For your information.

REMARKS

OFFICE OF THE ASST.  
SECRETARY - AF

1969 JAN 23 PM 5 24

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

COPIES TO

S - Mr. Moffat (w/att)

H - Mr. Homme (w/att)

IO - Mr. Stein (w/att)

P - Mr. Coates (w/att)

RECEIVED  
DEPT. OF STATE  
JAN 23 1969

GLK 4735  
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT.

0533

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

FRANK ANNUNZIO  
7TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS  
COMMITTEE  
BANKING AND CURRENCY  
SUBCOMMITTEES  
DOMESTIC FINANCE  
CONSUMERS AFFAIRS  
BANK SUPERVISION AND INSURANCE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

540  
DISTRICT OFFICE  
ROOM 1626  
U.S. COURT HOUSE  
219 SOUTH  
CHICAGO, IL  
353-4618  
ACTION  
is assigned to  
WASHI  
ROOM 1429  
LONGWORTH  
WASHINGTON  
225-6661

January 21, 1969

227

Honorable William P. Rogers  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have received a great deal of correspondence from constituents in the Seventh Illinois Congressional District, which I have the honor to represent, expressing dismay over the United States' official position on the Republic of Biafra.

I have been asked whether or not the State Department will issue a public message of sympathy to Biafra, and I would appreciate receiving your comments, and advice on what action has been taken thus far and what is contemplated in the days ahead.

I look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your cooperation.

With every best wish, I am

Sincerely,

Frank Annunzio  
FRANK ANNUNZIO  
Member of Congress

1193

Pol 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria

RECEIVED BY 15/2

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1/22/69

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
1969 JAN 22 PM 1 33  
FA/aa

ANALYSIS BRANCH

0534

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MWA Date 10/5/05

(11)

MAR 7 - 1969

Honorable Robert P. Mayo  
Director, Bureau of the Budget  
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Mayo:

In accordance with established procedure, there is transmitted herewith a proposed report to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on S. Con. Res. 3, "Relating to the furnishing of relief assistance to persons affected by the Nigerian civil war."

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

In view of the deep interest in this subject, the Committee has asked the Department to expedite its report on this resolution.

It would be appreciated if you would inform the Department as soon as possible whether there is any objection to the submission of this proposed report.

Sincerely yours,

15/  
William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Four copies of proposed  
report on S. Con. Res. 3.

(1)

H:EMWaskewich

Clearances - see letter to Sen. Fulbright

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

0535

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 9503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

75

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
036106

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

48  
7 MAR 69 23 15z  
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin ACTION: USMission GENEVA

Info: Amembassy BONN

Subj: Nigerian Relief: JCA Airlift to Biafra

Ref: Geneva 633

Info on Berlin airlift being pouched as requested. However, it not applicable as Berlin airlift was massive military operation using 380 aircraft which made more than thousand landings daily at Berlin. Tonnage exceeded 10,000 tons in one 24-hour period. Biggest differences were around the clock military-run operations and ~~ext~~ extensive airport/logistic facilities at both ends of air bridge.

36106

ROGERS

Drafted by: <i>RW</i> AF/W:RWach:ba 3/7/69	Tel. Ext. 2946	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne Nigeria Task Force <i>Ru</i>
---	-------------------	---

Clearances:

DOD/ISA-Col Hamilton *R* (draft)

EUR/GER-Mr. Hemenway *R* (sub)

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0536

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VMD 954503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA

035325

NIGERIA

39 A

7 MAR 69 00 45Z

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

STATE

Subj: EG Situation

We are still interested in reports on situation you may receive from  
Mobil or other sources.

35325

ROGERS

Drafted by:

AFCW:MLCook/mfc

3/6/69

Tel. Ext.  
4323Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

AFCW:William E. Schaufele, Jr.

Clearances:

AF/W - Mr. D. Smith

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0537

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 053

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00078 080942Z

12  
ACTION AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01,

ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, UCF 03, RSR 01, /153 W

130915

R 071640Z MAR 69  
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 917  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMCONSUL DOUALA

CONFIDENTIAL LUANDA 078

SUBJ: BIAFRA RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN SAO TOME

DURING TRIP SAO TOME FEB 27 - MAR 6, CONGEN OFFICER OBSERVED  
FOLLOWING:

A. ORGANIZATION: RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS LOOSELY ASSOCIATED  
UNDER OPERATING TITLE "JOINTCHURCHAID" CONSISTING OF: JOINTCHURCH-  
AIDUSA, NORDCHURCHAID (PRIMARILY SCANDANAVIAN LUTHERAN CHURCHES),  
GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, CARITAS AND VARIOUS SMALLER EUROPEAN  
GROUPS. OPERATIONS: CHIEF AND COORDINATOR, ALEX DUKE (DANISH),  
RESIGNED FEB 5 AND REPLACED TEMPORARILY BY WALTER MCCARTHY (US  
NATIONAL). MINOR BICKERING AND COMPETITION EXISTS BETWEEN VARIOUS  
GROUPS, BUT OVERALL COOPERATION CONSIDERED GOOD.

1. APPROX TOTAL 275 EXPATRIATES PRESENTLY IN SAO TOME,  
INCLUDING 29 AMCITS WHO EXPECTED GROW TO 50. AMCITS ARE MOSTLY  
CALIF AIR NATIONAL GUARD RESERVISTS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND  
CONTRACTED FLIGHT TEST RESEARCH (CALIF-BASED) TO FLY C-97'S--  
SEE BELOW.

B. FOOD SUPPLIES: DRIED FISH (EUROPEAN SOURCES), AND  
SALT, DRIED MILK AND CSM-NO. 2 MEAL (MOST US SOURCES), ARE

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0538

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Authority VND959503  
By MNA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUANDA 00078 080942Z

PRIMARY COMMODITIES USED IN RELIEF EFFORT. (SOURCES REPORT CSM-NO. 2 ESPECIALLY NOURISHING AND EASILY PALATABLE BIAFRANS.) ORIGINAL ESTIMATE WAS TRANSPORTATION OF 18 THOUSAND TONS TO BIAFRA BY END OF MARCH; HOWEVER, PERIOD EXTENDED TO APRIL DUE TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES. STOCKS STORED IN 13 SCATTERED WAREHOUSES AND INVENTORY AND CONTROL HAVE PROVEN SEVERE PROBLEMS. OFFICIALS CLAIM LOSS DUE PILFERAGE AND SPOILAGE ONLY 2 PER CENT, BUT CONGEN OFFICER ESTIMATES CONSIDERABLY HIGHER. WAREHOUSING SITUATION MAY IMPROVE IF PLAN TO ERECT PREFABRICATED STRUCTURES AT AIRPORT LOCATION CARRIED OUT. STOCKS AT SAO TOME CONTINUE TO GROW DUE BOTTLENECK IN SHUTTLEING FOOD TO BIAFRA, AND ATTEMPTS BEING MADE DIVERT SHIPS TEMPORARILY FROM SAO TOME.

C. TRANSPORTATION: AIR TRANSPORTATION HAS PROVEN PRINCIPAL BOTTLENECK OF RELIEF OPERATION. PRESENT AIRCRAFT OF JOINTCHURCHAIR ARE:

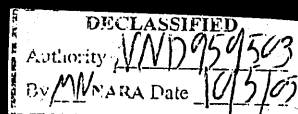
- 1) FOUR C-97'S (JOINTCHURCHUSA)
- 2) ONE CONSTELLATION (CANAIRRELIEF)
- 3) FIVE DC-6'S (TRANSAVIA HOLLAND-2, LOFTLEIDIA FINISH-2, BRAATHEN SAFE-DANISH-1)
4. ONE C-46 (FRED OLSEN - DANISH)

SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL JAN 20, THREE C-97'S WENT OUT OF COMMISSION DUE LACK SPARE PARTS AND PROPER TOOLS, LEAVING ONLY ONE C-97 AIRCRAFT OPERATIONAL. SECOND C-97 BECAME OPERATIONAL MARCH 4 BY CANNIBALIZING OTHERS FOR SPARE PARTS (CONGEN UNDERSTANDS SPARE PARTS HAVE NOW BEEN RELEASED AND ENROUTE). RESIGNATIONS BY NUMEROUS FLIGHT PERSONNEL DUE HAZARDS IMPOSED BY "INTRUDER" BOMBING ULI AIRPORT (BIAFRA) ALSO HAMPERED OPERATION. HOWEVER, NEW FLIGHT PERSONNEL HAVE ARRIVED AND BEING BROKEN IN. LACK OF MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT REMAIN CRITICAL PROBLEM.

AIRCRAFT AVERAGE TWO SHUTTLES PER NIGHT, SOMETIMES THREE. RESTRICTING FACTORS ARE SATURATION AND POOR AIR CONTROL AT ULI AIRPORT AND SHORT, 6200 FEET SAO TOME RUNWAY, SEVERELY LIMITING TAKEOFF CAPACITY AIRCRAFT, ESPECIALLY C-97'S. DAILY TOTAL HAD DROPPED TO 100 TONS BY END OF FEB FROM HIGH OF 190 TONS, BUT TREND HAS BEEN REVERSED IN PAST FEW DAYS AS PER FLIGHT TONNAGE HAS AUGMENTED SLIGHTLY AND NUMBER OF FLIGHTS INCREASED. MOST SOURCES COMMENTED THAT CONSTELLATION MOST SUITABLE AIRCRAFT. THIS TYPE OPERATION DUE EASIER MAINTENANCE AND HIGHER LOAD.

CONFIDENTIAL

0539







Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUANDA 00078 080942Z

CAPACITY. (UNDERSTAND CANAIRRELIEF PROPOSES BUILD NEW AIRPORT UNSPECIFIED SITE CENTRAL BIAFRA AT COST ONE MILLION DOLLARS. CLAIM COL. OJUKWU HAS GIVEN TACIT CONSENT THAT AIRPORT TO BE USED FOR RELIEF ONLY. FINAL ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE AGREED BY ALL RELIEF AGENCIES, HOWEVER, WHICH MAY TORPEDO IDEA.)

D. CHRISTMAS SHIP: MOST OF "00#TONS SUPPLIES FROM "CHRISTMAS SHIP" FORRA, ORGANIZED ABIE NATHAN, HAVE NOT BEEN TRANSPORTED BIAFRA. UNSUITABILITY OF FOOD COMMODITIES, WEIGHT FACTOR, AND POOR PACKING ARE REASONS CITED FOR REFUSAL TO TRANSPORT THESE ITEMS. MUCH OF "CHRISTMAS SHIP" CARGO HAS BEEN RELEASED TO SAO TOME OFFICIALS FOR DISTRIBUTION LOCAL SCHOOLS, ALTHOUGH A FEW INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES HAVE BEEN CARRIED INTO BIAFRA.

COMMENT: GIVEN DIVERSITY OF AGENCIES AND NATIONALITIES, RELIEF EFFORT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY WELL RUN. SEVERAL INFORMED SOURCES REPORTED THAT EMERGENCY IN BIAFRA HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CONFRONTED AND, IF TOTAL RELIEF CONTINUED AT PRESENT LEVEL, STARVATION WOULD NO LONGER BE PROBLEM. HAMPERED OPERATIONS OF C-97'S HAS DIMINISHED

US INPUT SOMEWHAT, BUT WHEN THESE AIRCRAFT BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL RELIEF EFFORT WILL RECEIVE A GENUINE BOOST.

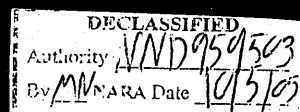
WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED IN FUTURE OF US ROLE IN FURNISHING COMMODITIES AND TRANSPORTATION FOR BIAFRA RELIEF EFFORT INVOLVING SAO TOME.

GP-3.  
SUMM:

NOTE: HAS RECEIVED.

CONFIDENTIAL

0540



75

POL 27-9 BIA 97A-XAGZHA  
035714

**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Classification*

Origin  
Info:

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA  
INFO: Amembassy LONDON  
Amembassy PARIS  
USUN NEW YORK  
Amembassy LAGOS  
Amembassy COTONOU  
Amembassy THE HAGUE

STATE

REFTEL Geneva 708

FOR TUBBY FROM FERGUSON

Subject: Nigerian Relief: Ferguson Visit Geneva

1. Ferguson accepts proposal dine with Freymond, Tuesday, March 11, meet with Lindt Wednesday morning and ICRC staff afternoon. Hold dinner Wednesday open for Ferguson invite Freymond.
2. Mission should set appointment for Schott with Gendron (UNICEF) afternoon March 11.
3. Morning March 13 should be held open for proposed press conference with Freymond. Meetings with LICROSS and JCA/CRS should be set for afternoon March 13.

ROGERS

Drafted by:

U/CF-SS Schott

Tel. Ext.  
8175

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

U/CF - C. Clyde Ferguson

Clearances:

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Classification*

FORM  
8-65 DS-322

0541

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

035806

7 MAR 69 21 39Z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA

Info:

STATE

Subject: C.C. Ferguson Visit

Ref: Addis 979

1. Mr. Ferguson ETA Addis Ababa 0945 March 26 via EAL #784; ETD Addis Ababa 0830 March 28 via EAL #708.
2. Mr. Ferguson would appreciate appointment with HIM. Other appointments, if desired, will be subject later communication.

End

ROGERS

Drafted by:

AF/NE:GRBeyer:sm

3/7/69

Tel. Ext.

64114

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF/NE - Matthew Looman

Clearances:

SS/EX - Mr. Vaughn

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne

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FORM DS-322  
8-65

0542

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 954503  
By MN NARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 336

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02040 071345Z

47  
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00,SSO 00,NSCE 00,DODE 00,CIAE 00,USIE 00,1070 W  
----- 124701

P R 071225Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5339  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USUN NEW YORK 882

S E C R E T LAGOS 2040

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: OBILAGO PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 29985 *pol 27-9 Biafra Surgeon*

1. IN MEETING WITH ARIKPO YESTERDAY I OPENED BRIEF DISCUSSION OBILAGO PROPOSAL BY ASKING WHETHER EMPERIOR HAD URGED OJUKWU TO ACCEPT. ARIKPO REPLIED HE DID NOT BELIEVE EMPERIOR HAD HAD ANY COMMUNICATION ON SUBJECT WITH OJUKWU.

2. ARIKPO COMMENTED TARTLY THAT HE UNDERSTOOD CONGRESSMAN LOWENSTEIN WAS ANNOYED BECAUSE HE HAD PUBLICLY ANNOUNED FMG ACCEPTANCE PROPOSAL AT ADDIS ON FEBRUARY 21. ARIKPO SAID HE AND EMPERIOR HAD AGREED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR FMG TO MAKE CLEAR PUBLICLY THAT IT NOT BLOCKING PROPOSAL. MOREOVER, ARIKPO CONTINUED, AS HE HAD TOLD LOWENSTEIN ON FEBRUARY 10 THAT FMG ACCEPTED PROPOSAL, THERE HAD BEEN AMPLE TIME FOR LOWENSTEIN TO OBTAIN DECISION FROM OJUKWU.

3. I EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT LAST STATEMENT AND SAID THAT I KNEW LOWENSTEIN HAD LEFT LAGOS ON FEBRUARY 10 BELIEVING FMG HAD NOT YET TAKEN FINAL DECISION ON PROPOSAL. HE HAD ACCORDINGLY BEEN

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Authority: *VND959503*  
By: *MV* NARA Date: *10/5/05*



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 02040 071345Z

AWAITING WORD THAT FMG HAD INFORMED EMPERIOR OF ACCEPTANCE. I WAS SURE THAT LOWENSTEIN WAS NOW PRESSING OJUKWU TO ACCEPT. ARIKPO RESPONDED THAT HE HOPED THIS WAS CASE BUT REITERATED THAT HE HAD GIVEN LOWENSTEIN FMG ACCEPTANCE ON FEBRUARY 10.

4. I BELIEVE THERE IS HONEST DIFFERENCE OF INTERPRETATION BETWEEN LOWENSTEIN AND ARIKPO AS TO FIRMNESS OF FMG ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL ON FEBRUARY 10. IN ANY CASE, AS TWO WEEKS HAVE PASSED SINCE PUBLIC FMG ANNOUNCEMENT ITS ACCEPTANCE, ARIKPO AND OTHER NIGERIANS WHO DEALT WITH LOWENSTEIN ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY DISENCHANGED WITH WHAT THEY CONSIDER HIS FAILURE TO CARRY OUT COMMITMENT TO CONDEMN PUBLICLY SIDE WHICH DID NOT ACCEPT. UNLESS LOWENSTEIN HAS SOLID EVIDENCE THAT OJUKWU WILL SOON ACCEPT PROPOSAL, I BELIEVE TIME HAS NOW COME WHEN HE SHOULD PUBLICLY PUT BLAME ON OJUKWU FOR BLOCKING PROPOSAL. IF HE DOES NOT DO SO NIGERIAN CONFIDENCE NOT ONLY IN HIM BUT IN ALL OTHER VOLUNTARY INTER-MEDIARIES WILL BE ERODED. MOREOVER, GOWON, ARIKPO AND OTHER MODERATES WILL FIND IT MORE DIFFICULT IN FUTURE TO DISREGARD PREVALENT HAWKISH PUBLIC OPINION IN NIGERIA AND TO ACCEPT SUCH IDEAS AS OBILAGO PROPOSAL.

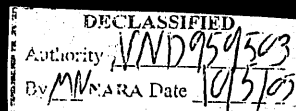
5. I MAY BE MISINTERPRETING REFTEL BUT IT SEEMS TO SUGGEST THAT OJUKWU SHOULD BE COAXED OR CHIDED RATHER THAN PRESSED INTO ACCEPTING OBILAGO PROPOSAL. IF SO, IT UNDERRATES OJUKWU'S INTELLIGENCE, DETERMINATION AND TOUGHMINDEDNESS. OJUKWU WILL NOT ACCEPT OBILAGO OR ANY OTHER PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD INCREASE DIFFICULTIES OF ARMS IMPORTATION BY SEPARATING RELIEF FROM ARMS FLIGHTS UNLESS REJECTION OF PROPOSAL SEEMS LIKELY TO HAVE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES THAT COULD PLACE EQUAL OR GREATER DIFFICULTIES IN WAY OF ARMS IMPORTATION.

GP-3 MATHEWS

SECRET

41

0544



L I M D I S  
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screener *MD*

POST *Lags*

SERIAL *2040*

(Time Received)

1969 MAR 7 AM 9 37

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT *117*

Secretariat

Geographic

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AF *5*  
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ACDA *5*  
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AA/EA *3*  
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Functional

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0545

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Authority *VND959503*  
By *MM* NARA Date *10/5/05*

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/09

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

XR A/D (US) 1	POL 7 DAHOMEY
	036010

036010

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Classification XR A/D (IBRD) 9 DAMONEY

7 MAR 69 22 39z

Origin **ACTION:** Amembassy COTONOU

Info:	INFO:	Amembassy LAGOS
		Amembassy LOME
		Amembassy LONDON
		Amembassy PARIS
		US Mission GENEVA

STATE

SUBJECT: ZINSOU PRIVATE VISIT TO WASHINGTON

~~XX~~  
1. In meetings here Zinsou stressed his hope that new Administration would augment US attention to African affairs and recorded his belief that US should liberalize aid structure to include bilateral aid to countries, like Dahomey, which are now excluded. He stated that FMG border control restrictions are in retaliation for his position on Cotonou ICRC airlift which he would not abandon.

2. He also participated in signing session at IBRD for \$4.6 million agricultural loan and was given luncheon by Schweitzer of IMF on March 5. Later that afternoon was given coffee reception by Senator Goodell and Congressman Lowenstein attended by numerous Members of Congress.

3. He plans depart US on March 8 for Paris, where he will engage in talks for a few days. He told new relief coordinator Ferguson that he did not expect to return to Cotonou until on or about March 20.

4. FOR COTONOU: Other materials being pouched.

GP-3  
END

ROGERS

**GP-3**

**END**

ROGERS!

Drafted by: *WSE*  
AF/CW: WSC Parke: km  
Clearance:

3/7/69

Vol. Ent.  
5127

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by: AF/CW - William E. Schaufele, Jr.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

### Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0547

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 959503  
By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05



(18)



Department of State

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 693

PAGE 01 THE HA 00890 071642Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15

SR 01, ORM 03, UCF 03, UPW 01, RSR 01, /168 W

125947

R 071630Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3604

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 890

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 34694

EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES INFORMATION PROVIDED BY  
DEPARTMENT ON SHALLOW WATER CRAFT, FERGUSON TRAVEL  
TO GENEVA, AND SURFACE CORRIDORS. ON LAST SUBJECT,  
INFORMATION CONTAINED LAGOS 1501, STATE 4204,  
LAGOS 15667, AND LAGOS 15505 WOULD BE PARTICULARLY  
HELPFUL TO MFA IN EVALUATING "LUNS PLAN". REQUEST  
AUTHORITY DRAW ON THIS INFORMATION ON  
STRICTLY FYI BASIS WITH MFA DIRECTOR AFRICAN/ME  
AFFAIRS HUYDECOPER. TYLER

*the Hague  
Tel. 890  
3/7/69*

CONFIDENTIAL

0548

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Authority: *VND 95/503*  
By: *MV* NARA Date: *10/3/05*

75



POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 734

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00720 071713Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04,

SCA 01, AID 28, UCF 03, UPW 01, RSR 01, /153 W

126136

R 071600Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 579  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USUN NEW YORK 2836

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 720

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: JCA SAO TOME-BIAFRA AIRLIFT

REF: GENEVA 471

1. IN FEB JCA COMPLETED 211 FLIGHTS, CARRYING 2,099.8 TONS.  
CUMULATIVE COMPLETED FLIGHTS FOR THE OPERATION TOTALLED 1,504 AT  
THE END OF THE MONTH; CUMULATIVE TONNAGE 13,562.8.

2. STARTING NIGHT FEB 11, THE C-97G'S IN THE AIRLIFT COMPLETED  
27 FLIGHTS IN FEB. ON NIGHT FEB 28, ONE C-97 WITH SAME  
PILOT COMPLETED THREE FLIGHTS, CARRYING TOTAL 42 TONS; THIS  
HIGHEST ONE NIGHT ONE PLANE DELIVERY IN HISTORY AIRLIFT.

3. IN PERIOD MAR 1-5, JCA COMPLETED 66 FLIGHTS (15 BY C-97G'S),  
714 TONS.

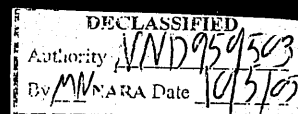
TUBBY

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GENEVA-720  
3-769

0549



37

Honorable Donald M. Fraser  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 7, 1969

Dear Congressman Fraser:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter of January 28 about Nigeria/Biafra relief activities. I sincerely regret the delay in this reply.

I assure you that the Department of State shares the urgent concern of Congress about the need to increase the flow of relief supplies to afflicted areas on both sides in the Nigerian conflict. The Department has done, is doing, and will do everything possible which would be useful in augmenting the relief effort. As you may know, over \$30 million or 60% of the relief received as of the middle of this month was financed from American sources. The U.S. Government is directly responsible for five-sixths of this total. At the present time, the principal obstacles to getting more supplies into the areas in need are political, not technical. We are neglecting no proposed solutions to this problem.

On February 22, President Nixon referred to the deep anguish felt by this nation for the terrible suffering in Nigeria and announced that the Secretary of State had at his direction appointed a Special Coordinator for relief. A self-explanatory press release concerning the Special Coordinator is enclosed.

I have also enclosed current information relating to the Nigerian situation and the problem of relief which may be of interest to you. I appreciate your concern for the Nigerian problem and I shall be happy to furnish any additional information you desire.

Sincerely,

*W*  
William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

(2) Enclosures:

1. Press release.
2. Current information on Nigeria.

Clearances: Nigeria Task Force - Mr. Melbourne Af-Ambassador Moore H-  
AF/W:RWFaville:sg 7573 2/25/69 PBR:ljh:3/7/69

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

*W*  
POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Authority VND959503  
By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 081

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GENEVA-708  
3-7-69

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00708 071111Z

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ACTION UCF 03

INFO AF 12, EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,  
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03,  
SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, UPW 01, RSR 01, /147 W

123791

R 071050Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 567  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USUN NEW YORK 2834

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 708

*Clarence Clyde*  
SUBJ: FERGUSON VISIT GENEVA  
REF: STATE 035203

1. FREYMOND SUGGESTS DINNER WITH FERGUSON TUESDAY MARCH 11 AND/OR  
12. FREYMOND WILL BE IN BERN MOST OF WEDNESDAY APPEARING BEFORE  
PARLIAMENT COMMITTEES.

2. SUGGESTS FERGUSON MEETING WITH LINDT WEDNESDAY MORNING AND  
WITH OTHER ICRC STAFF THAT AFTERNOON. LINDT PLANNING LEAVE FOR  
AFRICA SHORTLY AFTER LUNCH.

3. I SUGGEST WE SET UP FERGUSON MEETINGS MORNING OF 13TH WITH  
LICROSS (BEER, DABNEY AND STANISSIS), UNICEF (GENDRON), AND  
JCA/CRS (CHENARD, LUMB). PLEASE ADVISE.

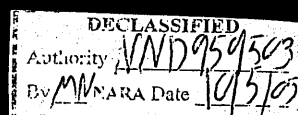
4. SUGGEST ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESS CONFERENCE BE DISCUSSED  
WITH FREYMOND AFTER ARRIVAL. TUBBY

④

CONFIDENTIAL

4

0551



FLORENCE P. DWYER  
12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
UNION-ESSEX SUBURBS, NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2421 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5561

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
ROOM 202, 40 SOMERSET STREET  
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060  
TELEPHONE: (201) 754-8888

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

March 7, 1969

(38) S  
COMMITTEES:  
BANKING AND CURRENCY  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**ACTION**  
is assigned to

**AF**

The Honorable William Rogers  
Secretary  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Rogers:

On several occasions last year I wrote to the Secretary of State with regard to the urgent necessity of relieving starvation among the people of Biafra, the helpless victims of the civil war between Nigeria and Biafra. My appeals were made exclusively from the humanitarian point of trying to relieve human suffering and were made with full awareness of the political complications involved, including the very debatable question of the justifiability of the war itself.

At this time I would very much appreciate being advised of the position being followed by the new Administration under your leadership in the Department of State and I would greatly welcome any information you could furnish me both with regard to the basis of our policy and the results to date of attempts to relieve suffering and starvation in Biafra. I should emphasize I have no intention of taking sides with regard to the relative position of Nigeria and Biafra, but I would welcome any information and judgements you could offer in this regard. My sole concern is that the United States do everything possible to prevent suffering by innocent victims without taking sides in the dispute.

Very sincerely,

*Florence P. Dwyer*  
FLORENCE P. DWYER  
Member of Congress

FPD:Kb

7322

③  
3/10/69

POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA  
XR POL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

0552

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**AIRGRAM**

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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A-117

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : COPENHAGEN, GOTEBOG, HELSINKI, LONDON, OSLO, REYKJAVIK, STOCKHOLM, USMISSION USUN NY, USMISSION GENEVA

FROM : Amembassy LAGOS

DATE: MAR 6 1969

SUBJECT : FMG Reply to Nordic Ministers' Statement on Humanitarian Assistance

REF : Stockholm 0173

Attached are the FMG's reply to the Nordic Ministers' statement of January 19, 1969 on humanitarian relief in Nigeria and the combined acknowledgement to the FMG sent by the senior Nordic Ambassador in Lagos.

MATHEWS

CW

Attachments:  
As stated

Exempted from automatic decontrol

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FORM DS-323

Drafted by: POL:GFCarr:Jr:mjr 3/6/69

Contents and Classification Approved by: POL:EE Ramsaur

Clearances:

0553

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Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Page 1 of 3  
Encl. No. 1  
A- 117 from Lagos

STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION  
OF NIGERIA ON 28TH FEBRUARY 1969

The Federal Military Government has noted the joint statement made in Stockholm on January 19, 1969 by the Danish, Finnish and Swedish Prime Ministers and the Norwegian Minister for Ecclesiastical Affairs and Education. The Federal Military Government regrets the delay in replying but the results of informal contacts which were being made with the secessionist authorities through interested individuals were being awaited so that the Nordic Governments could be informed of the current state of affairs regarding methods of transporting relief supplies to the secessionist area in massive quantities.

The Federal Military Government is grateful for the concern on humanitarian grounds being shown by the Governments of Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway for the suffering population of the war-affected areas throughout Nigeria.

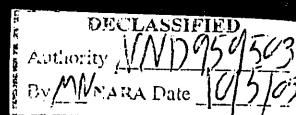
The Federal Military Government trusts that the governments concerned noted that a truce was declared and observed by the Federal Armed Forces during the Muslim holidays preceding Christmas and during the Christmas holidays as well. Furthermore the Nordic Governments will have noted that a truce was also declared by the Federal Military Government during the recent Muslim festival of Id-El-Kabir which took place on 26th and 27th February, 1969. It has been the practice of the Federal Military Government since the commencement of hostilities to declare a truce on religious festival days. This practice is in evidence of the absolute religious freedom which exists in the country.

The Federal Military Government has noted the appeal of the Nordic Governments for "both parties to do their utmost to reach agreement on a cease fire and negotiations". It is the view of the Federal Military Government however that negotiations should precede a cease fire and that in fact a cease fire would be the result of negotiations if an agreement is reached during the negotiations.

As regards the humanitarian assistance operations to which the Nordic Governments and the Nordic public have contributed in a very generous and substantial measure the Federal Military Government regrets that repeated negotiations and informal contacts have been unsuccessful in persuading the secessionist authorities to accept the most effective means of getting relief supplies on a massive scale into the secessionist area. The Federal Military Government has always been concerned about privation and suffering in the war-affected areas. It was in order to avoid unnecessary suffering to innocent civilians that the Federal Military Government invited the ICRC at the commencement of hostilities to carry out its humanitarian task under the Geneva Conventions. At the same time, the Federal Military Government announced that any voluntary relief agencies wishing to operate in the war-affected areas should coordinate their efforts through the ICRC. Much to the disappointment of the Federal Military Government some voluntary relief agencies chose to operate independently in total disregard of the

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Page 2 of 3

Encl. No. 1

A-117 from Lagos

Federal Military Government's authority over its own airspace and in a manner unknown to any international laws, conventions or practices. These voluntary relief agencies have continued to operate illegally from the Portuguese-held island of Sao Thome and have never at any time consulted the Federal Military Government or even offered to hold discussions with the Federal Military Government.

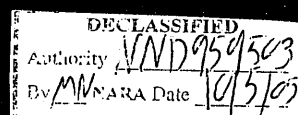
The sole concern of the Federal Military Government has always been that the relief operations in the secessionist area should be as effective as possible. Therefore the Federal Military Government offered land corridors for massive relief supplies to go into the secessionist area. Because of the refusal of the secessionist authorities of this offer the Federal Military Government permitted the ICRC to fly relief supplies into the secessionist area by daylight. This offer was also rejected by the secessionist authorities and the ICRC therefore demanded, and obtained, the concession to fly relief supplies by night at their own risk. The voluntary relief agencies which had at no time entered into discussions with the Federal Military Government announced that they were not concerned with the sovereignty of Nigeria over its own airspace and that they would continue to fly by night time. The voluntary relief agencies did this even though they were aware that, by flying at night time from Sao Thome, they were in effect giving cover to the planes which were engaged in an illegal airlift of arms and ammunition to the secessionist area and using the same facilities as the relief flights of the voluntary agencies.

When it became obvious that night time relief flights would not solve the problem the Federal Military Government made offers of land, air and water corridors which the secessionist authorities turned down at the talks held in Niamey and Addis Ababa. Nevertheless the Federal Military Government continued exploring through private sources the possibility of getting relief supplies organised in the most effective possible manner. The latest proposal is that relief supplies from wherever they may originate should be flown during daylight hours to Obilagu airstrip which is held by the Federal Army and which is very close to the secessionist area. From this airstrip, the relief supplies would be taken by road under the supervision of an international team of observers and representatives of the ICRC and voluntary relief agencies to the secessionist area. The Nordic Governments will observe that, true to the declarations which the Federal Military Government has always made, its concern is that humanitarian efforts should be coordinated and should be effective. The Nordic Governments will also note that the night time humanitarian operations have not so far been effective and that reports from various sources indicate that they cannot be effective. Furthermore, the Nordic Governments will wish to consider that an operation of this nature will bring the federal and secessionist authorities into cooperation which might contribute towards restoring some confidence. It is unfortunate that the activities of the voluntary relief agencies have so far tended to heighten tension and exacerbate relations between the federal and secessionist authorities. One other advantage of the Obilagu proposal is that it will enable the voluntary relief agencies once and for all to

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Page 3 of 3

Encl. No. 1

A-117 from Lagos

operate their mercy flights in total independence of the flights carrying arms and ammunition to the secessionists." Finally, the Nordic Governments will note that in spite of the illegal activities of the voluntary relief agencies the Federal Military Government is now inviting them to participate with the ICRC in relief operations in a manner that will be legal and effective. The Federal Military Government therefore hopes that the Nordic Governments will use their considerable influence to persuade the voluntary agencies to coordinate their activities with the ICRC and bring the proposal for the use of Obilagu into effect so that the problem of privation and suffering in the secessionist area can be effectively solved."

The Federal Military Government is grateful for the interest that is being shown by the Nordic Governments in the problems of alleviating distress caused by the war in Nigeria. Anything that the Governments can do to separate the humanitarian from the political aspect of this conflict in Nigeria will not only be helping the war affected populace but might also be a substantial contribution towards ending the war.

Lagos, 28th February, 1969.

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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Encl. No. 2  
A- 117 from Lagos

ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY  
LAGOS

March 5, 1969

Your Excellency,

The Governments of the Nordic countries - Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland - have given their full attention to the Federal Military Government's statement, dated February 28, 1969, which was made in reply to the joint statements by the Nordic Prime Ministers, dated January 19, 1969.

In a joint press communique issued on March 3, 1969, the Nordic Prime Ministers have related the contents of the Federal Military Government's statement to the public. Specially mentioned in this communique were the suggestions submitted by the Federal Military Government concerning land-, air- and water-corridors and in this connection the so-called Obilagu-Project was brought to the public's attention. Problems in connection with air-transports, as explained by the Federal Military Government, were also specially mentioned and in particular the invitation by the Federal Military Government to the voluntary organisations in order that they coordinate their airlift with the ICRC relief flights.

I have been instructed, on behalf of the Governments of the five Nordic countries, to communicate through Your Excellency to the Federal Military Government the text of the last two paragraphs of the joint press communique of March 3, 1969:

"The Governments of Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway, whose views in this matter are shared by the Government of Iceland, have with interest received the statement from the Federal Military Government.

It should now be further examined which practical possibilities there are for the Federal Military Government's suggestions to enhance the effectiveness of the humanitarian relief activities. As before, the Nordic Governments are ready to support all endeavours which can lead to a solution, acceptable to both parties, with regard to efficient and sufficient supplies of humanitarian relief.

In view of the reports lately received about air bombings, the Nordic Governments attach importance to the passage in the Federal Military Government's statement concerning the Government's efforts to avoid unnecessary suffering to the civilian population. It is the appeal of the Nordic Governments that everything be

His Excellency Dr. Okoi Arikpo,  
Commissioner for External ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
Affairs, Lagos. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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By MNARA Date 10/5/05

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Page 2 of 2

Encl. No. 2

A- 117 from Lagos

done to avert sufferings and losses to the civilian population  
in connection with military operations."

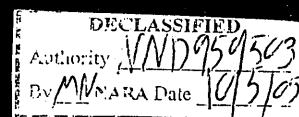
With renewed assurances of my highest esteem, I beg to remain,  
Excellency,

Yours very sincerely,

Troels Munk  
Ambassador of Denmark

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HLTH 14-6 GABON  
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA  
Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 684

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00233 061631Z

46  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, AID 28, HEW 07, SCI 05, IO 13, CIAE 00, DOOE 00, JPM 04, H 02,  
INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01  
ORM 03, UCF 03, SCA 01, RSR 01, 160 W

R 061530Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2397  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 233

SUBJ SCHWEITZER HOSPITAL LAMBARENE

1. RHENA ECKERT-SCHWEITZER CALLED THIS MORNING FOLLOWING HER RETURN GABON. IN ORDER SAVE HOSPITAL LAMBARENE, SHE HAS AGREED WITH STRASBOURG AUTHORITIES TAKE OVER FULL DIRECTION HOSPITAL LAMBARENE FOR ONE YEAR AND HAS BEEN GIVEN DECISION-MAKING POWERS. HOSPITAL BADLY RENT BY PERSONNEL PROBLEMS RECENT MONTHS AND ON VERGE DISINTEGRATION WITH PRESENT DIRECTOR DR MUNZ HAVING TENDERED HIS RESIGNATION. ACCORDING RHENA (AS WELL INFO AVAILABLE TO US FROM OTHER SOURCES), SITUATION PRECIPITATED IN LARGE MEASURE BY DR RICHARD FRIEDMAN, LONG TIME MEMBER HOSPITAL STAFF AND WHO STATELESS PERSON NOW GABONESE NATIONAL. WITH BACKING HOSPITAL AUTHORITIES RHENA HAS TERMINATED FRIEDMAN'S ASSOCIATION HOSPITAL ALTHOUGH GOG WANTS HER RETAIN HIM. RHENA SAYS GOG DOES NOT WISH LOSE ITS AGENT INSIDE HOSPITAL AND MOREOVER GOG NOW EMBARRASSED AS TO WHAT TO DO WITH FRIEDMAN. RHENA STATES FRIEDMAN DENOUNCED HER TO GOG AS AMERICAN CIA AGENT. I RECALLED THAT WE THOUGHT FRIEDMAN WAS PERHAPS ONE WHO DENOUNCED DR POPE TO GOG AND BROUGHT ABOUT HIS EXPULSION, A VIEW IN WHICH RHENA CONCURS. IN ANY EVENT SHE SAYS SHE CURRENTLY IN DOGHOUSE WITH GOG OVER DECISION TERMINATE FRIEDMAN BUT HOPES SHE WILL BE ABLE WORK OUT. ADDED THAT SHE HAS ALSO BEEN ADVISED BY FRENCH SOURCE GENDARMERIE TO AVOID BRINGING AMERICANS INTO HOSPITAL LAMBARENE. RHENA SAYS FULL TIME FRENCH ADMINISTRATOR HAS NOW BEEN EMPLOYED FOR HOSPITAL AND THAT THIS SHOULD HELP IMPROVE HOSPITAL'S RELATIONS FRENCH AS WELL FILL URGENT NEED HOSPITAL.

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HLTH 14-6 GABON  
POL 27-9 BIAFRA- NIGERIA

0559

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Authority: VND959503  
By: MVA Date: 10/3/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin ACTION: USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON  
Amembassy PARIS  
USUN  
Amembassy LAGOS  
Amembassy COTONOU  
Amembassy THE HAGUE

STATE

REFTEL Geneva 639

FOR TUBBY FROM FERGUSON

Subject: Nigerian Relief: Ferguson Visit Geneva

1. Relief Coordinator Ferguson (Schott accompanying) plans arrive Geneva morning March 11 and will call on Tubby same afternoon.
2. Ferguson hopes meet Freymond and Lindt ICRC March 12 for extensive discussions. Mission requested make appointment for March 12 and urge Lindt remain Geneva through March 12 to discuss urgent fiscal problems.
3. Pursuant Tubby-Schott telecon we understand Lindt will be in Zurich March 10 for Press Conference. If he cannot delay his return Cotonou, we propose Ferguson and Lindt meet late

Drafted by: U/CF - S. Schott

Tel. Ext. 8175

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: U/CF - G. Clyde Ferguson

Clearances: AFW - Mr. Melbourne

AF - Amb. Moore

AFR/CWA - Mr. North

S/S - Mr. Walsh

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FORM DS-322  
8-65

POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Authority VND 95/503  
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION:

~~AMEMB~~ USMISSION GENEVA

Info:

Page 2

afternoon March 11. Conversations with Freymond would continue March 12.

4. Ferguson would like to hold press conference with Freymond March 13 to announce US contribution ICRC. Mission should inform Freymond and be prepared arrange conference.

5. Time allowing Ferguson expects to arrange meetings with other relief agencies in Geneva.

6. Request Mission reserve two single rooms reasonable rate for March 11-13.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

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8-65

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By MVA Date 10/5/03

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
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6 MAR 69 02 46 Z  
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Origin ACTION: US Mission GENEVA

Info: INFO : Amembassy LAGOS

Ref: Geneva 632

Subject; Nigerian Relief Inspection Sao Tome Cargoes

1. Reftel discussed March 4 by Deputy Assistant Secretary Moore with Swiss Ambassador Schnyder. In an earlier meeting, undoubtedly the basis for statement in Thalman letter mentioned para 1 reftel, we had explained our thoughts on inspection arrangements and had indicated that commercial firm such as Surveillance might be most practicable since its responsibility would be only to certify contents of plane and not to pass judgment on appropriateness of cargo. However we stressed at time that other inspection arrangements by no means precluded. Schnyder stated he had so reported to Berne.

2. Re names of Swiss companies given by GOS to JCA/CRS (para 1 reftel) Schnyder felt it quite likely that GOS had been in touch with two companies and had reason to believe their response would be favorable. However he is inquiring of Berne and will let us know. He also reaffirming to Berne our open-mindedness on inspection arrangements.

XXXXXX  
XXXX

Drafted by: AF:CRM Moore:ehd 3/5/69 Tel. Ext. 5208 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - C. Robert Moore  
Clearances: AID:AFR/CWA-Mr. Haven North AF/W-Mr. Melbourne  
U/CF-Mr. Ferguson

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Origin

ACTION:

Info:

3. Swiss Embassy has obtained confirmation March 5 that Swiss Govt. had agreement in principle from Securitas and Schweizerische Treuhand Gesellschaft to conduct inspections for JCA at Sao Tome. Companies willing negotiate details of contract with JCA/CRS. AID/W informing JCA/CRS.

END.

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.:

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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Authority VND959503  
By MW NARA Date 10/3/05



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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00690 061150Z

20  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, AID 28, UCF 03, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DnDE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, RSP 01, EUR 15, /152 W

R 061122Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 552  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

116495

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 690

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: INSPECTION SAO TOME CARGOES

REF: STATE 34693

1. CHENARD (JCA/CRS) INFORMS THAT JCA/CRS HAS REACHED UNDER-  
STANDING WITH VISURA SA (ONE OF ASSOCIATED COMPANIES COMPRISING  
SCHWEIZERISCHE TREUHAND GESSELLSCHAFT) TO UNDERTAKE INSPECTIONS  
SAO TOME.

2. MCA/CRS IN PROGRESS GETTING PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT APPROVAL,  
AFTER WHICH IT WILL NEGOTIATE CONTRACT WITH VISURA.

3. ACCORDING CHENARD VISURA HAS ALREADY SELECTED TWO INSPECTORS -  
ONE SPEAKS ENGLISH AND ONE PORTUGUESE. VISURA WILL PROBABLY  
ROTATE INSPECTION PERSONNEL EVERY MONTH OR SO. TUBBY

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Authority VND959503  
By MNA Date 10/5/05

(21)

POL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria  
035225

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

31 A

6 MAR 69 23 30z

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LISBON

STATE

SUBJECT: Biafran Relief Flights from Sao Tome

REF: Lisbon 108 /

POL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

135225

1. Dept. apologizes for delay in answering reftel.
  2. USG is not directly concerned in Sao Tome airlift, but from humanitarian point of view, Dept. is appreciative for GOP's attitude regarding relief effort. Those involved in airlift have praised Portuguese efforts to facilitate and assist relief agencies' operations.
  3. There are several relief organizations of varying nationality operating from Sao Tome. None have any official connection with USG.
- In view of this, plus communications difficulties and absence US representation Sao Tome, we suggest best source information requested in para 3 reftel would be relief agency representatives on Sao Tome.

END

ROGERS.

Drafted by: AF/W:RWFaville:oh 3/6/69	Tel. Ext. 7573	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RM Melbourne RM
Clearances: AFR/CWA:HNorth EUR/SPP:JMSmith U/CF:SSchott		

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA  
 TR POL 37-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 855

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02012 061859Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, ID 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, USIF 00, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, UCF 03,

UPW 01, RSR 01, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07,

L 03, NSAF 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, /141 W  
 118950

P R 061540Z MAR 69  
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5228  
 INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
 AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
 AMEMBASSY LOME  
 AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS  
 USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 2012

SUBJ: NIGERIA-DAHOMEY BORDER CONTROLS

REF: STATE 29633

1. WHEN I RAISED QUESTION OF RELATIONS WITH DAHOMEY THIS MORNING, COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO TOOK MODERATELY HARD LINE. HE SAID ZINSOU HAD NOT CONSULTED FMG BEFORE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT WITH ICRC. FMG ACCORDINGLY FELT NO OBLIGATION TO HELP ZINSOU--E.G. BY GOWON-ZINSOU MEETING--TO COUNTER OBJECTION OF MANY DAHOMEANS TO ICRC OPERATION.

2. ARIKPO STATED THAT BORDER CONTROLS WERE REQUIRED FOR SECURITY REASONS AND TO CHECK INCREASED SMUGGLING. I COMMENTED THAT NIGERIAN CHARGE HAD GIVEN MANY PEOPLE IN COTONOU, FOREIGNERS AS WELL AS DAHOMEANS, IMPRESSION THAT FMG BORDER CONTROLS WERE REPRISAL AGAINST DAHOMEAN GOVERNMENT. ARIKPO DENIED THAT CONTROLS WERE ESTABLISHED AS REPRISAL.

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 Authority VND 959503  
 By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 818

PAGE: 01 ADDIS 00979 070610Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO ID 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA I2, RSR 01

/056 W

R 061540Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8694

122521

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 979

SUBJECT: CLARENCE FERGUSON VISIT

REF: STATE 033458

BASIS: SUN MAR 4 STORY LOOK FORWARD FERGUSON VISIT ADDIS.  
HOPE HE WILL LET US KNOW HIS WISHES AND DEPT. WILL GIVE  
MAXIMUM NOTICE FOR ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS HIM AND OTHERS.

HALL

3-6-69  
Addis Ababa 979

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Authority VND959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
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NIGERIA

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

6 MAR 69 21 50z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy THE HAGUE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS  
US Mission GENEVA

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigeria Relief; "Luns Plan" and Shallow Water Craft  
Joint State/Defense Message

REF: Hague 732 and 801

1. Technical feasibility of using Orashi River as water route for relief purposes highly doubtful. From limited information available on Orashi River, it would appear that hovercraft such as used by US forces in Vietnam would be only practical means for transiting this waterway. Vietnam experience has verified that these vehicles are ideal for operating in shallow water. Following considerations especially pertinent to possible use of this type craft in proposed relief operations:

a. Craft has limited lift cargo carrying capacity with maximum capacity estimated to be about three tons, depending on bulk of cargo. Also, interior loads have restraints due to size of door (5.75 ft. by 3.25 ft).

b. Hovercraft require more maintenance than boats. Three hovercraft estimated to require operating base including approximately 20 maintenance/

③

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Drafted by: OSD/ISA-Col. Hamilton  
3/6/69

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and Nigeria Task Force: RMMelbourne  
classification approved by: *km*Clearances: OSD/ISA-Col. Kennedy  
Joint Staff/J3-Adm. McClendon  
Navy - Capt. Parpa  
D/DID-Col. Dewey  
U/CF-S. Schott

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FORM DS-322  
8-65

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Authority: VMD 9501503  
By: MWA Date: 10/3/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin

ACTION:

Info

logistic support personnel. As with helicopters, engine change is required every 1000 hours which in turn requires special tools, maintenance stands, spare parts, and starting units. Hovercraft requires JP-4/5 fuel. Because of considerable downtime due to necessary inspections and maintenance, availability rate of about 70 percent for sustained operations could be anticipated.

c. Hovercraft are manned by two-man crews with normally eight weeks of specialized training required for qualification.

2. Small number of hovercraft in service with US forces are all deployed to Vietnam.

3. Possible commercial sources are Bell Air Systems, Buffalo, New York, and Hovercraft in UK. Bell advises that it has two SK-5 air cushion vehicles for purchase or lease. Cost would be between \$200,000-\$350,000 (US), per vehicle. Cost to lease two vehicles for three months with contractor providing the operating crews, maintenance crews, and spare parts support is \$500,000. This price does not include: special liability insurance for combat zone (if appropriate), transportation

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

Clearances:

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8-65

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION:

Info

costs for moving vehicles to Africa (vehicles are air transportable),  
and operating fuel costs. Leased vehicles could be available in one  
month.

END

ROGERS

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Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
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Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy THE HAGUE

Info:

INFO: USMission GENEVA  
Amembassy LAGOS  
Amembassy LONDON  
Amembassy PARIS  
USUN

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief

Ref: (a) HAGUE 812; (b) LAGOS 1711

1. We tend believe "Luns Plan" can be useful <sup>forum respect organization</sup> ~~forum in respect organization~~ and promotion of relief activities. However, we accept assessment indicating Degema-Oguta route by Orashi river not feasible (ref. b). We believe premature public presentation of this or other proposals could sabotage Obilagu plan which at moment appears most active and workable. Intensive study has been made of possible land and water routes. Based on those findings and political and military considerations, USG may submit further proposals.

2. As Hague did not receive series of messages discussing feasibility various routes, these cables, some dating back to last November, being repeated to you (Lagos 15505 (3 parts), 15667, 1501; Dept. 4204; London 857).

Drafted by: AF/W:RWFaville:oh 3/5/69

Tel. Ext.

7573

Telegraphic transmission and Nigeria Task Force:RM Melbourne

classification approved by:

Clearances: AFR/CWA:HNorth (substance) *[initials]*

DOD:Col. Hamilton (substance) *[initials]*

V/CF:SCSchott *[initials]*

EUR/EBX-EA:EABean (draft) *[initials]*

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

POL 27-9 BIAPRA-  
NIGERIA 034694

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Authority VND 959503  
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05



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ACTION:

Info:

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3. Septels will respond directly to Hague 732 re shallow water  
craft and Ferguson schedule.

END

ROGERS

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Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

0572

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By MN/ARA Date 10/3/03



REF NIGERIA  
XZ POL DAHOMEY-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XZ POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00251 061149Z

16  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13,RSR 01,CIAE 00,DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,

NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,AID 28,SR 01,ORM 03,

SCS 04,GCA 01,UCF 03,UPW 01,138 W

116484

R 060910Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1922  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 251

1. ONE-HUNDRED AND FOUR NIGERIANS EXPELLED FROM GARON ARRIVED COTONOU BY FRENCH PASSENGER SHIP GENERAL MANGIN EVENING MAR 5. HUNDREDS OF DAHOMEAN YORUBAS WERE AT PORT TO MEET NIGERIANS WHO FOR MOST PART YORUBAS. ACTING MINFONAFF AND CHIEF OF STAFF DAHOMEAN ARMY ON HAND. NIGERIAN MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN LODGED AND FED AT MILITARY CAMP COTONOU. PLANS CALL FOR THEM TO BE RETURNED BY ROAD TO LAGOS MARCH '6.

2. COMMENT: GRD'S RECEPTION OF REFUGEES VERY WELL DONE. WARM, FRIENDLY, CONCERNED, HELPFUL. DAHOMEANS MIGHT HAVE HAD IN MIND DETERMINATION TO SHOW THAT THEY HELD NO RANCOR TOWARDS NIGERIA FOR WHAT THEY CONSIDER AS CLOSING OF THE FRONTIER. HOWEVER, OTHER SIDE OF COIN IS THAT ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES FROM COUNTRY ON BAD TERMS WITH NIGERIA MAY HARDEN CONVICTION OF DAHOMEANS OPPOSED TO ICRC AIRLIFT. IF THERE IS ONE THING DAHOMEANS SHARE IT IS DREAD OF SEEING THEIR RELATIVES EXPELLED FROM NIGERIA. SINCE 1958 THEY HAVE HAD PAINFUL EXPERIENCE OF TAKING CARE OF SUCCESSIVE WAVES OF RELATIVES EXPELLED FROM ALL OVER WEST AFRICA. SPECTRE OF NIGERIANS EXPELLING DAHOMEANS AS RETALIATION FOR AIRLIFT WEIGHS HEAVILY ON DAHOMEAN SOUL.

EXEMPT. KNOX

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00694 061959Z

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ACTION AID 28

INFO IO 13,UCF 03,AF 12,EUR 15,UPW 01,SCS 04,SCA 01,SR 01,ORM 03,E 15,  
L 03,SFW 02,JPM 04,CIAE 00,DODE 00,INR 07,NSAE 00,P 04,RSC 01,

USIA 12,SS 20,NSC 10,PSR 01,160 W

119379

R 061445Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 554  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS GENEVA 694

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC BUDGET

REF: A) GENEVA 559; B) GENEVA 605 AND 554, PARA. 4

1. ENGLISH VERSION OF ICRC NIGERIA/BIAFRA BUDGET BEING POUCHED  
MARCH 7. (FRENCH VERSION POUCHED FEBRUARY 25).

2. ENGLISH VERSION IS SIMPLY TRANSLATION OF FRENCH EXCEPT FOR  
ADDITION P. 23.1 (FOLLOWING PARA 5.7) WHICH AS FOLLOWS (UNNECESSARY  
WORDS OMITTED): QUOTE: ALTHOUGH IMPORTED FOODS RICH IN CARBOHYDRA-  
TES SUFFICIENT FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS, THERE IS SHORTAGE STOCKFISH  
TO SUPPLY PROTEIN, PROVISION HAVING BEEN MADE OF ONLY 7,200 TONS  
AS AGAINST 11,340 TONS ESTIMATED NECESSARY COVER ALL PROTEIN  
REQUIREMENTS. ICRC HOPES OBTAIN SHORTFALL 4,140 TONS, PREFERABLY  
ICELANDIC OR NORWEGIAN STOCKFISH. FAILING THIS, EQUIVALENT CASH  
CONTRIBUTION, NOT PROVIDED FOR IN BUDGET, I.E. ABOUT 12 MILLION  
SWISS FRANCS, WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. UNQUOTE.  
TUBBY

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By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00699 061715Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, UCF 03,  
AGR 20, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 173 W  
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P R 061700Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 558  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 699

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF: INTERNATIONAL FOOD ASSESSMENT

1. LINDT SETTING UP FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM AND REQUESTS EITHER JACKSON OR MIRACLE (STATE 16079) AS U.S. MEMBER.

2. LINDT ALSO TRYING OBTAIN SERVICES PHILIPINE EXPERT MANDATO FROM FIRST LIST OF POSSIBLE NAMES MADE AVAILABLE TO HIM BY USAID.

3. LINDT ALSO TRYING GET SEISS EXPERT BUT INDICATIONS SO FAR ARE THAT NONE WITH DESIRABLE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE. LINDT INQUIRES IF US WOULD OBJECT TO FRENCH EXPERT WHOSE INCLUSION MIGHT FACILITATE BIAFRAN ACCEPTANCE OF TEAM. FAO HAS ONE OR TWO POSSIBLE FRENCH CANDIDATES TO SUGGEST.

4. LINDT FEELS STRONGLY THREE MEMBER TEAM IS ALL HE COULD SUCCESSFULLY URGE ON BIAFRAN AUTHORITIES.

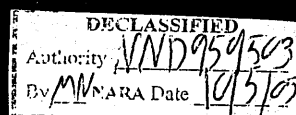
5. PLEASE ADVISE ON PARAS 1 AND 3 ABOVE.

TUBBY

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29

0575





POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 912

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00700 061950Z

45  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, UCF 03, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AGR 20,

AID 28, IGA 02, USIE 00, E 15, DOT 12, RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04,

H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, SSO 00,

CCO 00, NSCE 00, /190 W

119294

P 061815Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 559  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
CINCSTRIKE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 700

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH LINDT

1. HAVE REPORTED IN SEPTEL (GENEVA 699) LINDT'S PROPOSALS RE  
FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM.

2. LINDT DEEPLY CONCERNED RE RUMORED COUP ATTEMPT BY EG FOREIGN  
MINISTER AGAINST PRESIDENT MACIAS IN RIO MUNI. IN SOMEWHAT  
GARBLED PHONE CONVERSATION FROM SANTA ISABEL, LINDT WAS TOLD OF  
RUMOR THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAS SHOT. UNDERSTANDABLY HE IS  
FEARFUL OF DEVELOPMENTS ENDANGERING ICRC PERSONNEL, PLANES AND  
RELIEF OPERATIONS.

3. LINDT WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED RE NIGERIAN-DAHOMY DEVELOPMENTS  
AND POSSIBILITY OF COUP IN DAHOMEY IF SITUATION WORSENS. NOTED  
THAT VERY TOUGH PRESSURE BEING EXERTED AGAINST GOD NOT ONLY IN  
APPLICATION OF STRICT BORDER CONTROLS BUT ALSO THROUGH PUBLIC  
STATEMENTS. REFERRED TO BLAST FROM FMG CHARGE D'AFFAIRES PER 4  
IN COTONOU. LINDT SAYS IT MAY BE THAT FMG LOOKING FOR SCAPEGOATS  
IN VIEW DIFFICULT MILITARY SITUATION. DESPITE THIS MOST RECENT

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Authority VND959503  
By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00700 061950Z

FMG ATTACK ON ICRC, LINDT SAYS THAT RELATIONS IN THE FIELD WITH NIGERIAN REPS ARE GENERALLY EXCELLENT.

4. LINDT SAID THAT BIAFRANS (HE DID NOT SEE OJUKWU ON LAST TRIP) TOLD HIM THAT OBILAGO PROJECT HAD NOT BEEN REJECTED BY BIAFRAN GOVT BUT WAS "SIMPLY NOT BEING CONSIDERED" BECAUSE OBILAGO SAID TO BE WITHIN SIX KILOMETERS OF THE FRONT. BIAFRANS FURTHER INDICATED THEY WERE DISPLEASED THAT STATEMENT RE POSSIBILITY USE OF OBILAGO WAS MADE PUBLICLY IN ADDIS BY FMG REP AND THEY WERE DISPLEASED ALSO THAT THERE WAS NO MENTION OF A RIVER CORRIDOR WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE TO BIAFRA.

5. LINDT TOLD THAT BIAFRANS WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE FOR AIRSTRIIP DEVELOPMENT PIECE OF LAND SOUTH OF UDO TEN MILES FROM THE CROSS RIVER. AIRSTRIIP COULD HAVE LENGTH OF ONLY FIVE KILOMETERS AND THEREFORE BE TOO SMALL FOR ANY BUE HERCULES OR TRANSALL PLANES. BIAFRAN IDEA IS THAT SUCH AIRPORT WOULD BE BUILT BY ICRC OR VOLAGS. RE RUMOR THAT CANAIR WOULD BUILD AIRSTRIIP, LINDT SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH DR. JOHNSON OF CANAIR WHEN IN UMAHIA AND JOHNSON SAID NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE, THAT CANAIR HOWEVER IS INTERESTED.

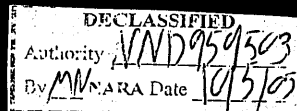
6. LINDT AND FREYMOND MEETING WITH DUTCH REPS TOMORROW REGARDING LUNS PLAN. LINDT SEEMS SKEPTICAL ABOUT FEASIBILITY THEREOF.

7. LINDT SAID HE AND FREYMOND LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH CLYDE FERGUSON. BECAUSE OF SITUATION IN EG AND DAHOMEY HE HAS BEEN THINKING OF RETURNING THERE MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 10. HOWEVER IN VIEW OF INABILITY FERGUSON REACH GENEVA BEFORE TUESDAY MORNING, LINDT SAID WOULD DELAY HIS DEPARTURE SO THAT HE AND FREYMOND COULD MEET FERGUSON TOGETHER.

TUBBY

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0577



March 6, 1969

Dear Congressman Daniels:

The Secretary of State has asked me to thank you for your letter of February 5 about means to alleviate the suffering of the people of Biafra.

We greatly appreciate your kind offer of assistance. The sentiments you expressed about those afflicted by the war aptly reflect the deep sympathy of the American people. We are grateful for any support given the Department, both from Congress and the public, in our task of helping to provide relief for those in need.

Our concern for the human tragedy in Nigeria is deep. The United States has provided about 60% of the global contribution thus far made to relief in both Nigeria and Biafra. The latest figures show that the Government's contribution amounts to over \$26 million while American voluntary agencies have given \$7 million. In addition, eight C-97G cargo planes were made available at nominal cost to the International Committee of the Red Cross and to Joint Church Aid. We stand ready to provide all feasible assistance to those in need on both sides of the fighting lines.

On February 22, President Nixon referred to the deep anguish felt by this nation for the terrible suffering in Nigeria and announced that the Secretary of State had at his direction appointed Mr. Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr. as Special Coordinator for relief. A self-explanatory press release concerning the Special Coordinator is enclosed.

The Honorable  
Dominick V. Daniels,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C. 20515.

AF/CRMBORE  
AF/W:RW FAVILLE: smf  
3/3/69

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA

0578

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

- 2 -

I have enclosed several studies of the relief problem which you may find of interest. The principal obstacles at the present time in getting relief supplies into Biafra are not technical but political. We continue to seek ways of removing these barriers to increased deliveries and hope these efforts will prove fruitful.

We welcome your great interest in this problem. If you would like more information on this question, please let me know.

Sincerely,

*WBM*  
William B. Macomber, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

1. Press release
2. Several studies of relief problem

Clearances: Nigerian Task Force - Mr. Melbourne

AF - Ambassador Moore *AM*

H - Mr. Leahy *JSW*

AF/W:RWF:ville:smf 7573

AF/CRMoo *W*

3/3/69

0579

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Authority	VND 9503
By	MMNARA Date 10/3/03



DS-1563

46

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

**ACTION SLIP**

(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

S/S 1301

DATE

2/6/69

AF - Mr. Heubeck

SUBJECT Ltr to S fm DANIELS (MC) dtd 2/5 re Biafra.

**ACTION**

\*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required

Prepare reply. A response for signature by ~~SK~~ Mr. Macomber  
Clear with

XXXXX

Prepare a to

Refer to White House request of

H  
Due in ~~SK~~ by FEBRUARY 10, 1969  
XX XXX

For your information.

**REMARKS**

**COPIES TO**

- S - Mr. Moffat (w/ltr)
- U - Mr. Homme (w/ltr)
- H - Mr. Briggs (w/ltr)
- P - Mr. Cheshes (w/ltr)
- IO - Mr. Frisbie (w/ltr)

George Kelly  
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT. 4735

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

0580

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 959503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

DOMINICK V. DANIELS  
14TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

DISTRICT OFFICE,  
POST OFFICE BUILDING  
UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

3

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:  
EDUCATION AND LABOR  
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

CHAIRMAN:  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT,  
INSURANCE, AND HEALTH BENEFITS

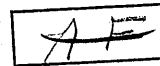
FRANK A. MADDEN  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

February 5, 1969

Honorable William P. Rogers  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

1301

ACTION  
is assigned to



Dear Mr. Secretary:

Speaking for the people of the 14th Congressional District of New Jersey, I am offering my services to you to introduce and support any legislation you might propose which would alleviate the suffering of the people of Biafra.

This is not a partisan issue or one where men divide along party, economic or philosophic lines. It is one where men of good will are found on the same side. I urge you to do what you can to provide relief now for the people of Biafra.

With every best wish, I am

Sincerely,

DOMINICK V. DANIELS, M.C.

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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By MNARA Date 10/5/05



PO L 57-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

VR EP 6-1 SANTA ISABEL

CONFIDENTIAL 807

PAGE 01 KINSHA 01366 061832Z

45  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15,OPR 03,0 02,SY 04,OC 06,CCO 00,SSO 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,

INR 07,NSAE 00,RSC 01,DODE 00,IO 13,RSR 01,1070 W  
----- 118812

P 061745Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 501  
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 1366

SUBJECT: EQUATORIAL GUINEA

1. DUE TO CURRENT TURMOIL IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA, COMISH C-123 AIRCRAFT HAS BEEN PLACED ON ALERT, PRESUMABLY IN ORDER TO BE AVAILABLE IF NEEDED FOR EVACUATION PURPOSES.

2. IF SUCH EVACUATION WERE TO OCCUR, WE SUSPECT KINSHASA WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS POSSIBLE SAFE HAVEN FOR EVACUEES. IN ORDER FOR US TO BE PREPARED FOR SUCH EVENTUALITY, WOULD APPRECIATE ESSENTIAL TRAFFIC ON DEVELOPMENTS IN EG BEING ROUTED HERE FOR INFO.

DECON 1/1/70. MCBRIDE

CONFIDENTIAL

3/

0582

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Authority: VIND 950503  
By: MWA Date: 10/5/05

(21)



POL 27-9 Biafra-  
Department of State *nigeria*  
**TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 628

PAGE 01 LISBON 00311 051605Z

53  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, JPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07,  
NSAE 00, P 04, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 07, RSR 01,  
IO 13, E 15, /159 W

*3/5/69*  
*11*  
*Lisbon*

R 051538Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3080

110308

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0311

SUBJ: BIAFRA AIRLIFT

REF: LISBON 0108

*POL 27-9 Biafra-  
nigeria*

WILL APPRECIATE INDICATION WHEN EMBASSY CAN EXPECT TO  
RECEIVE BASIS FOR REPLY TO INQUIRY FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY  
(PARAGRAPH 3 REFTEL).

BENNETT

*1*

CONFIDENTIAL

0583

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VND 959503  
By: MVA/ARA Date: 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET 896

PAGE 01 PARIS 03204 051913Z

53  
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 001/070 W

R 051833Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1652  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

SECRET PARIS 3204

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIAN PAPER ON FRANCE AND BIAFRA

REF: LAGOS 1905

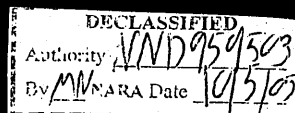
1. NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR CALLED AT NOON FEB 28 TO REQUEST URGENT APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR SHRIVER (WHO WAS ENROUTE TO AIRPORT TO WELCOME PRESIDENT NIXON). AMBASSADOR SHRIVER SAW AMBASSADOR MALIKI EVENING FEB 28 AND WAS GIVEN PAPER ON FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN ARMS DELIVERIES TO BIAFRA, WITH REQUEST THAT IT BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF PRESIDENT NIXON. (COPIES OF REPORT BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT (AFW), LAGOS AND LONDON).

2. EMBASSY AND CAS EVALUATION OF NIGERIAN REPORT IS THAT IT CONTAINS INFORMATION NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN TO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN ARMS DELIVERIES TO BIAFRA. MOREOVER, DISCUSSION OF NIGERIA/BIAFRA TOOK PLACE BETWEEN SECRETARY ROGERS AND FONMIN DEBRE AFTERNOON FEB 28. REPORT WAS THEREFORE NOT REPEAT NOT BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF PRESIDENT NIXON.

3. GIVEN TIMING OF DELIVERY, WE CONSIDER NIGERIAN REPORT TO BE RESPONSE TO RUMORS THAT UNITED STATES POSITION ON NIGERIA/BIAFRA MIGHT SHIFT AS RESULT OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS WITH GENERAL DE GAULLE. NIGERIAN FIRST SECRETARY CAME IN TO SEE EMBOFF. MARCH 4 TO ASCERTAIN WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED ON NIGERIA DURING PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT HERE. HE WAS TOLD THAT WE HAVE NOT SEEN FULL REPORT OF CONVERSATIONS, BUT THAT UNITED STATES AND FRENCH POLICIES

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*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 02 PARIS 03204 051913Z

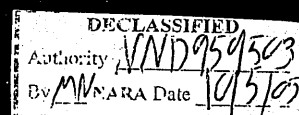
APPARENTLY REMAIN UNCHANGED.

GP-2.

SHRIVER

SECRET

0585



TOP SECRET  
 POST PARIS  
 SERIAL 3204

L I M D I S  
 I N C O M I N G

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1969 MAR 5 PM 3 29

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Geographic

AF 5  
 ARA 9  
 EA 11  
 EUR 10 X  
 NEA 8

Other

ACDA 5  
 AID/EXSEC 3  
 AA/AFR 2  
 AA/VN 2  
 AA/EA 3  
 AA/NESA 2

Principals and  
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AGR 3  
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AEC 3  
 NASA

JUS  
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 NIC  
 NSA

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2/10/69

0586

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 Authority VND 959503  
 By MVA Date 10/5/05

(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL: 891

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 00296 051905Z

52  
ACTION: AFI 18

INFO: IO 13, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UCF 05, AID 28, IGA 02,

SRI 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, RSR 01, 1172 W  
----- 111229

R 051645Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2787  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 0296

SUBJ: RED CROSS FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA.

1. RED CROSS AIRCRAFT BELIEVED TO BE C-97 IS  
UNDERGOING REPAIR AT NIAMEY AIRPORT.

2. LOCAL UTA MANAGER (PROTECT) STATES RED CROSS  
AIRCRAFT CARRYING MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO BIAFRA PERIODICALLY  
REFUEL AT NIAMEY.  
GP-3 ADAMS

*3-5-69*  
*296*

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

21

0587

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Authority: VND959503  
By: MM NARA Date: 10/5/05



48

**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

*Pol Eg Guin - Sp*  
*XR Pol 23-8 Guin*  
*Pol 17 Sp - Eg Guin*  
*Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

034056

5 MAR 69 20 16

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin ACTION: KAmembassy RABAT

Info: STATE

Ref: Rabat 945.

SUBJ: Equatorial Guinea

1. Mutual frustration of young Equatorial Guinean Govt and its former Spanish masters erupted into open conflict Feb 26 after President Macias ordered National Guard remove Spanish flag from Consulate at Bata in mainland Rio Muni. One Spanish death and brief confrontation of military forces ensued. Macias has declared Spanish Ambassador persona non grata, asked Govt of Spain to replace him and to withdraw all Spanish forces, and asked UNSYG send "peace-keeping force." GOS, reacting with restraint, has suggested that SYG send personal representative, but insists its forces must stay to protect its nationals. Large-scale evacuation Spanish nationals is underway but GOEG refuses exit permits for key technicians.
2. State of emergency and curfew in effect, halting ICRC relief airlift to Biafra. Situation remains tense but our rep in Santa Isabel does not see any present danger to Americans. Mobil Oil is, however, evacuating dependents and non-essential personnel.
3. Recent sitreps being repeated to you.

34056

(4)

ROGERS

Drafted by: AFCW:MLCook/mfc 3/5/69 4323 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AFCW:William E. Schaufele, Jr.

Clearance: AF/N - Mr. Lloyd (substance)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0588

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Authority: VND 959503  
By: MWA Date: 10/5/05

37



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington, D.C. 20520

~~S/S Pending~~

OBE

S/S 2971

March 5, 1969

COPIES TO:  
S/S:RF  
AF  
AF/W  
U-Ruser  
U/CF

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Appointment with the President for  
Mr. Clarence Clyde Ferguson, Jr.,  
Special Coordinator on Relief

Mr. Ferguson's appointment as Special Coordinator on relief to victims of the Nigerian civil war was announced by the President on February 22. Mr. Ferguson expects to complete his briefings this week and to depart for the field on the afternoon of March 10.

Given the President's personal concern on this subject and his interest in the appointment of Mr. Ferguson, we believe it would be most useful for Mr. Ferguson to receive directly from the President his views and further instructions relating to his humanitarian mission. Such a meeting, reflecting the President's personal interest in this mission, would be most helpful to Mr. Ferguson in his contacts abroad and would improve the chances of his success.

We therefore recommend that the President receive Mr. Ferguson briefly prior to his departure on March 10.

*John P. Walsh*  
John P. Walsh  
Acting Executive Secretary

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

(3)

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 3/5/69

MICROFILMED  
BY S/S: CMS

Clearances:

U-Mr. Ruser (draft)  
U/CF-Mr. Ferguson (draft)  
AF-Amb. Moore (draft)

0589

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Authority VND 959503  
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

66

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

033458

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

4 MAR 69 21 27z  
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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS  
Info: INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA  
LONDON  
PARIS  
US MISSION GENEVA  
USUN NY  
CINCSTRIKE  
~~Amcon~~ Amconsul IBADAN  
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria Press Summary - March 4

1. Balt Sun has Joseph Sterne report of interview with Ferguson headed Biafra called continuing disaster. Clarence Clyde Ferguson Jr., new American coordinator for Nigerian relief, said tonight he has a "very short time span" in which deal with a "continuing, rolling disaster." By middle this month he will fly Geneva and points in Africa in hope expanding flow supplies to victims Nigerian-Biafran civil war. If his mission to be successful, Ferguson observed, success will have to come soon--within matter of months. Said he believed it will be difficult but possible separate humanitarian relief effort from political entanglements that have hobbled it in past. Although he declined give details his plans, remarked: "I can conceive of solutions that need not raise political considerations such as truces and cease-fires." On basis his experience as adviser of human rights USdel to UN, said all too often political aspects override all others in formulation policy. Humanitarian concern can be brought to bear effectively if efforts made abandon kind of rhetoric that makes solutions difficult.

Drafted by: AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 3/4/69

Tel. Ext. 2105

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne

Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0590

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Authority: VIND 954503  
By: MM/ARA Date: 10/5/03

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin: ACTION: Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

2. He said he found new assignment "irresistible" because Nixon Administration was willing promote concept divorcing relief needs from political-diplomatic obstacles. He assigned "high priority" President's pledge of American support for international survey of food needs Biafra. This matter will be near top his agenda when he makes first trip in search arrangements for increase in relief operation. According State Dept sources, Ferguson will probably go to Geneva, where ICRC and church agencies established; to Ethiopia, where Emperor has played major peace-making role; to both sides in civil war, and to some of places from which relief supplies being flown to Biafra. Having been given assignment only nine days ago, Ferguson said he still assembling a staff able to deal with technical problems involved in massive relief effort. First two appointees, Stephen Schott and David Dawson, are Foreign Service Officers who have specialized in work of international organizations. Ferguson expected work with African affairs experts in State but will be able report directly to Secretary Rogers. This will be his second major assignment in government, having served as general counsel to US civil rights commission before taking academic posts at Howard and Rutgers.

3. Having visited Nigeria and dozen other African countries in 1967 when

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Clearances:		

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0591

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: Page 3 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

civil war in early stages, Ferguson said he had early awareness a "great tragedy" was in making. "In a sense this war is almost a personal hurt. I identify with the African independence movement. I am proud of it personally and Nigeria had seemed a country that couldn't miss making it. As a black, I feel very, very deeply about this fratricidal war." Ferguson not only member his family with special interest in Africa. His brother Albert and sister Velma are Baltimore public school teachers now on leave for assignments in East Africa.

END

ROGERS

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Clearances:		

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA 033159

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

4 MAR 69 15 26  
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin  
Info:

ACTION: USMission GENEVA  
Amembassy LAGOS

Subj: Food Assessment Team

Ref: Lagos 1835 ~ ~

State/AID concurs with position taken by Miller/Marks group in discussions with Lindt re assessment team (reftel), including suggestion made to Lindt in case Biafrans respond that they have all necessary information. We concerned that Lindt contemplates two Americans on three-man team together with one African or Asian. Request Lagos and Geneva inform ICRC that we believe team should be more international in character (and possibly larger) including other non-American members. Agree with Lindt that team should be presented to Biafrans on low key basis as part of normal ICRC planning, but believe preponderance of Americans on team might negate low key presentation. It would appear that more internationalized group under ICRC auspices would be less likely to stimulate undue Biafran attention to team and give Biafrans less reason to reject. Larger team could carry out food assessment more rapidly and efficiently, but we recognize that small size of team could contribute to its acceptability by the Biafrans.

33159

ROGERS.

Drafted by: AF/W:DFS:sh:ba 3/4/69	Tel. Ext. 2946	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne Nigeria Task Force
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U/CF-Mr. Ferguson (draft)

AID;AFR:CWA-HWilson (draft)

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

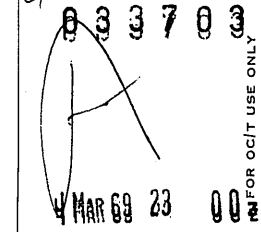
0593

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Authority VMD 950503  
By MN NARA Date 05/05

37

POL 27-9 BIAFRA/NIGERIA

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TOLIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
Classification

Origin ACTION: Amembassy ABIDJAN

Info: INFO: Amembassy LAGOS  
" LIBREVILLE  
" LONDON  
" PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA

REF: Abidjan 520

SUBJECT: Biafran Children's Relief

Department approached Barton to offer any assistance he might ~~xxx~~ have needed in arranging commercial air transport but discovered that Barton did not rpt not have funds to pay for plane. Since Barton group is not rpt not registered Volag, USG unable offer material assistance. Barton conducting fund-raising campaign, which may net enough to pay transport for at least some supplies. Amount of supplies he wishes transport totals 1700 tons.

DECONTROLLED FOLLOWING 5/4/69

END

ROGERS

(6)

Drafted by: *PR*  
AF/CW:RReed:iw 3/4/69  
Tel. Ext. 6062  
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF/CW- William E. Schaefe

E/AV - Mr. Diedrich *PR*  
~~AID/PRR/PRDS - Miss Kain~~AID/PRR/PRDS - Miss Kain *PR*LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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FORM 8-65 DS-322

0594

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Authority VND 959/503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 549

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01905 041318Z

46  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, SS 20, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, /065 W

102196

R 041209Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5267

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1905

1. PERMSEC EXTAF TOLD AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING THAT NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER TO US AMBASSADOR IMMEDIATELY PROCEEDING ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT IN PARIS HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL DETAILED REPORT ON FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN NIGERIAN CRISIS. FMG HAD HOPED REPORT WOULD BE BROUGHT TO PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION BEFORE HIS MEETINGS WITH DE GAULLE.

2. DID NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN FACT DELIVER SUCH DOCUMENT AND IF SO WHAT DISPOSITION WAS MADE OF IT.  
GP-3 MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

31

0595

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



18



Department of State

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 768

PAGE 01 THE HA 00842 041549Z

46

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 1150 W

102981

R 041300Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3592  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA UNN  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN UNN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON UNN  
AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN  
ZEN/USMISSION USUN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 842

SUBJ: "LUNS PLAN" FOR NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: THE HAGUE 801

1. MFA INFORMED EMBASSY MARCH 4 THAT MEETING OF "LUNS PLAN" GROUP TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED MARCH 7 IN GENEVA CANCELED.

2. DECISION TAKEN AT REQUEST ICRC ACTING PRESIDENT FREYMOND, WHO FEELS THAT HOLDING SUCH MEETING IN GENEVA MIGHT "CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT FOR ICRC IN VIEW OF SELECTION OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING", EVEN IF MEETING HELD IN OFFICE NETH PERM REP. FREYMOND SUGGESTED THAT

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*Handwritten:*  
The Hague  
Tel.  
3/4/69  
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 THE HA 00842 041549Z

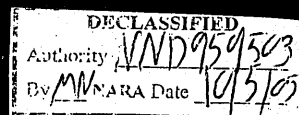
ONE OR TWO REPS OF LAST MEETING COME TO GENEVA MARCH 7  
TO OBTAIN VIEWS OF LINDT AND THAT NEXT MEETING OF FULL  
GROUP BE HELD IN THE HAGUE AFTER PARTICIPATING  
GOVERNMENTS IN POSITION MAKE MORE THOROUGH STUDY OF  
VARIOUS PLANS.

3. MFA WILL SEND REP TO GENEVA AND WILL INFORM  
EMBASSIES HERE OF RESULTS OF DISCUSSION. NEXT MEETING  
WILL BE TIMED TO ALLOW GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE LINDT  
RECOMMENDATIONS INTO CONSIDERATION. TYLER

CONFIDENTIAL

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 380

PAGE 01 SANTA 00061 051317Z

47

ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UCF 05, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02

SS 20, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, E 15, 158  
109316

0 P 041625Z MAR 69

FM USINT SANTA ISABEL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 58

INFO AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS 46

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTA ISABEL 61

AMB LINDT WHO ARRIVED HERE YESTERDAY MET WITH MINISTER TRANS-  
PORT OYONO TODAY. OYONO WAS FRIENDLY AND FORTHCOMING AND OFFERED  
THAT RED CROSS NIGHT FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA WOULD PROBABLY BE  
RESUMED BEFORE MARCH 6 DESPITE CURFEW. OYONO PROMISED TO SEEK  
MAVIGD APPROVAL THIS POINT BEGINNING TODAY. ALSO AGREED PER-  
MIT ARRIVAL TOMORROW OF SHIP DC-7 FROM COTONOU. WHEN QUERIED  
ABOUT THIRTY DAY MAXIMUM PERIOD FOR NIGHT FLIGHTS OYONO STATED  
HE AND FONMIN DONGAO AGREED THIS TIME LIMITATION NO RPT NOT  
LONGER APPLICABLE. FOR HIS PART LINDT OFFERED PAY GOEG TOMORROW  
ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PRESETAS FOR PARKING AND LANDING FEES  
AS PARTIAL RETROACTIVE PAYMENT FROM OCTOBER 11 IN ADDITION TO  
ONE HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND PRESETAS FOR LAST WEEKS AIRPORT  
FEES. GOS HAS NOT YET SOUGHT PAYMENT THESE FEES FROM FEB 12.  
LINDT DEPARTS THIS AFTERNOON FOR COTONOU BUT EXPECTED RETURN  
MARCH 10.  
WILLIAMS

*Santa Isabel 61  
3-4-69*

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0598

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By MW NARA Date 10/5/05



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TELEGRAM

POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA  
XR POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 645

PAGE 01 COTONO: 00246 041445Z

45  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04,  
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,  
E 15, IGA 02, AID 28, COM 08, TRSY 11, DOT 12, OC 06, CCO 00, RSR 01,  
/203 W

R 041100Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1919  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL IBADAN

102480

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 246

REF: LAGOS 1848 - NC 5-13-69

1. RADIO DAHOMEY MARCH 3 GAVE MORE COMPLETE TEXT OF ZINSOU INTERVIEW WHICH REFERRED TO IN LAGOS 1848. ACCORDING RADIO DAHOMEY ZINSOU IN RESPONSE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS SAID QUOTE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ME TELL ME NIGERIA HAS AFFIRMED THAT CLOSING OF FRONTIER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED AS BEING EFFECTIVE FOR ONLY A FEW DAYS AND IS IN NO WAY RELATED TO INSTALLATION OF THE COTONOU-BIAFRA AIRLIFT. IT IS ABOVE ALL A QUESTION OF BRINGING TO AN END SMUGGLING WHICH PARTIALLY EXISTS BETWEEN DAHOMEY AND NIGERIA. IT IS MY CUSTOM TO BELIEVE WHAT GOVERNMENTS SAY, AND I HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT WHAT THE FMG SAYS. I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE FMG AND THERE IS NO NEED TO GET ALL EXCITED. ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT AND SEE WHAT THIS MEASURE WILL PRODUCE. I MIGHT OBSERVE IN A FRIENDLY FASHION THAT THERE PERHAPS MIGHT BE OTHER MEANS OF RESOLVING THE SPREAD OF SMUGGLING. FOR IF IN GENERAL IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE FRONTIERS BECAUSE OF SMUGGLING, THERE WOULD BE VERY FEW FRONTIERS OPEN. IN ANY CASE IN THE EXISTING SITUATION I CONTINUE TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE FMG UNQUOTE

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By: MWA Date: 10/5/05



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PAGE 02 COTONO 00246 041445Z

2. ASKED ABOUT THE TIMING FOR THE STRICT CONTROL OF THE BORDER, ZINSOU REPLIED QUOTE THE COINCIDENCE IS A LITTLE UNFORTUNATE, BUT I REFUSE TO BELIEVE UNTIL I AM INFORMED DIFFERENTLY THAT THE FMG WANTS TO CREATE PROBLEMS FOR ME. I PREFER TO BELIEVE THAT THE REASONS GIVEN OFFICIALLY ARE THE ONLY REAL REASONS UNQUOTE

3. ASKED IF, SINCE SMUGGLING WAS A PROBLEM EFFECTING TWO COUNTRIES, DAHOMEY WAS CONSULTED PRIOR TO NEW MEASURES GOING INTO EFFECT, ZINSOU REPLIED QUOTE NO WE WERE NOT CONSULTED, BUT THE FMG ACTING ON ITS OWN HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A SOVEREIGN NATION UNQUOTE

4. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE ZINSOU GAVE ABOVE INTERVIEW WITH ONE EYE COCKED TOWARDS PORTO NOVO. PORTO NOVIANS ARE BITTER WITH ZINSOU FOR HAVING PERMITTED ICRC OPERATIONS FROM COTONOU. THEY BELIEVE THIS LED TO CLOSING OF FRONTIER. AT THIS POINT, IT NO WAY IN ZINSOU'S INTEREST OFFICIALLY CONFIRM PORTO NOVIAN POINT OF VIEW. BY LAYING EMPHASIS ON SMUGGLING HE ALSO PUTS THE ONUS FOR BORDER CLOSING ON PORTO NOVO WHERE MOST OF THE SMUGGLERS OPERATE. HE ALSO IS OBVIOUSLY REFRAINING FROM STARTING A PROPAGANDA WAR WITH NIGERIA. THIS COULD LEAD FURTHER HARDENING NIGERIAN POSITION WHICH COULD ONLY MAKE PORTO NOVIANS MORE VIOLENTLY OPPOSED TO ZINSOU. BY REFUSING TO RECOGNIZE ANY MOTIVATION OTHER THAN SMUGGLING FOR THE CLOSING ZINSOU LEAVES NIGERIANS WAY TO BACK OUT WITHOUT DEMANDING THE CLOSING OF THE AIRLIFT AS A COUNTERPART TO OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

EXEMPT. KNOX

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By MM NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 341

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00654 041040Z

20  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, SCA 01, SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, 1

H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

UPW 01, RSR 01, 147 W

101375

R 040950Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 524  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 654

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF BIAFRA FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM

1. RED CROSS HAS PASSED TO ME FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM LINDT TO ICRC HEADQUARTERS: QUOTE I AM PERSONALLY CONCERNED RE THIS EXTREMELY DELICATE MATTER. DO NOTHING FOR THE MOMENT PENDING MY RETURN TO GENEVA. UNQUOTE.

2. ICRC EXPECTS LINDT TO ARRIVE GENEVA MARCH 5 OR 6.  
TUBBY

GENEVA  
3-4 69  
654

CONFIDENTIAL

0601

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Authority VND959503  
By MNARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 900

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00662 041659Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCS 04, SCA 01, E 15, DOT 12, AID 28, RSR 01, 177 W

103462

R 041630Z MAR: 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 530  
INFO: AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USUN: NEW YORK 2820  
USINT: SANTA ISABEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 662

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF ICRC BIAFRA AIRLIFTS

REF: GENEVA 591

1. SANTA ISABEL. FIVE FLIGHTS NIGHT FEBRUARY 27, 50 TONS. NO FLIGHTS SINCE.

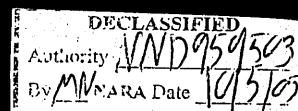
2. COTONOU. COMPLETED FLIGHTS NIGHTS FEB 27-MAR2 AS FOLLOWS:

FEBRUARY	TOTAL	TRANSALL	DC-6(S)	DC-6(T)	DC-6(R)	TONS
27	8	2	2	2	2	82.0
28	11	2	3	3	3	111.1
MARCH						
1	6	2	2	2	0	60.5
2	8	2	2	2	2	82.0

3. C-97G'S. SECOND ICRC C-97G TO ARRIVE EUROPE (REFTEL) LEAVING GENEVA TODAY (MARCH 4) FOR NIAMEY AND COTONOU WITH LOAD RELIEF

CONFIDENTIAL

0602





*Department of State* **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00662 041659Z

SUPPLIES. CREW OF FIRST C-97G NOW AWAITING REPLACEMENT ENGINE.  
IN NIAMEY WILL FLY SECOND PLANE NIAMEY-COTONOU-NIAMEY. REGULAR  
CREW THIS SECOND PLANE WILL RETURN IT TO SWITZERLAND.

TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

24

0603

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By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05



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POL 27-9 BIAFKA -  
NIGERIA

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CONFIDENTIAL 580

PAGE 01 THE HA 00812 031008Z

11  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00,  
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02

SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, E 15, /165 W

094081

R 030947Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3579  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 0812

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: LAGOS 1711

1. U.S. PREFERENCE FOR GIVING PRIORITY TO OBILAGO  
PROPOSAL EXPRESSED TO DUTCH IN LAGOS GOES BEYOND WHAT  
WE HAVE THUS FAR BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SAY HERE ABOUT  
"LUNS PLAN" (STATE 28892). MFA INFORMED US NETH  
EMBASSY WASHINGTON ALSO TOLD BY DEPARTMENT THAT EMBASSY  
LAGOS DOES NOT BELIEVE ORASHI RIVER USABLE (PAR. 7,  
HAGUE 801).

2. TO ASSURE CONSISTENCY IN U.S. POLICY STATEMENTS (AS  
WELL AS PROTECT OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH MFA HERE), REQUEST  
WE BE PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS ENABLING US TO CONSULT FULLY WITH  
MFA ON THESE MATTERS. TYLER

CONFIDENTIAL

0604

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By MVA Date 10/3/05

(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-  
Department of State NIGERIA  
**TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 963

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00210 041745Z

49  
ACTION INR 07

INFO RSR 01, 008 W

103719

R 001500Z MAR 69  
AM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
NO SECSTATE WASHDC 2383  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCSRIKE  
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 210

CITE SICR D-CDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. LIKELY FLIGHTS SINCE FEB 24: DC-4 F-BRHQ, DC-6 00-HEX  
AND POSSIBLY F-BICT (AIRCRAFT DESCRIBED PARA 4 LBVL 178)  
NIGHT FEB 24-25; DC-4 TR-LNV NIGHT FEB 25-26 (CONFIRMED)  
TAKE OFF 2145; DC-4 F-BRHQ NIGHT FEB 26-27; DC-3 439B  
NIGHT MARCH 1-2.

2. ABOUT 2000 MAR 1 EITHER DC-4 TR-LNV OR DC-6 00-HEX  
CAME IN, PROCEEDED MILITARY AREA, AND TOOK OFF 2030.

3. DC-6 00-HEX MADE TWO OTHER FLIGHTS FEB 26 AND MAR 2  
BUT AS TAKE OFF PRIOR 1830 SUSPECT DESTINATION NOT  
BIAFRA.

4. B-BICT DEPARTED SOMETIME PRIOR 0700 MAR 1 AND HAS  
NOT RETURNED. GPI 3 BANE

CONFIDENTIAL  
32

*Libreville 210*  
*3-3-69*

0605

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA.  
Department of State  
NIGERIA **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 607

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00628 031037Z

11  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,  
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01,  
ORM 03, UPW 01, AID 28, RSR 01, /150 W

094198

R 030920Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 499  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 628

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: BIAFRAN FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM

REF: GENEVA 622

1. NOT HAVING RECEIVED LINDT RESPONSE TO "REPEATED CABLES" SINCE  
LAST THURSDAY, FREYMOND N SUNDAY MARCH 2 REPEATED INQUIRY AND  
URGED IMMEDIATE ACTION ON FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM.

2. FREYMOND SAYS SETTING UP OF TEAM "WILL BE DONE". IF HE DOES  
NOT GET BIAFRAN APPROVAL THROUGH LINDT DURING LINDT'S PRESENT  
BRIEF SOJOURN IN BIAFRA, HE (FREYMOND) WILL INSTRUCT JAGGI TO  
PURSUE MATTER WITH BIAFRANS. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

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DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VIND 950503  
By: MN NARA Date: 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 952

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00633 031536Z

52  
ACTION AF 18

INFO IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16, UPW 01, SCA 01, SCSE 00,

E 15, EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, 177 W

095753

R 031442Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 504  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS GENEVA 633

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: JCA AIRLIFT TO BIAFRA

1. JEAN CHENARD, OVERSEAS DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, WHICH TAKES PART IN JOINT CHURCH AID SAO TOME-BIAFRA AIRLIFT AND REPRESENTS JCA AND JCA/US IN GENEVA, HAS ASKED MISSION FOR ANY AVAILABLE HISTORY IN ENGLISH OF BERLIN AIRLIFT. CHENARD BELIEVES THAT DESPITE VAST DIFFERENCE TWO AIRLIFTS, BERLIN AIRLIFT EXPERIENCE MIGHT BE OF SOME USE IN CONNECTION SAO TOME-BIAFRAN AIRLIFT.

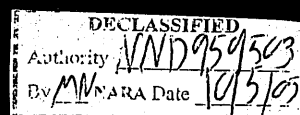
2. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S OR EMBASSY BONN'S FORWARDING ANY UNCLASSIFIED (OR PERHAPS LOU) MATERIAL ON BERLIN AIRLIFT.

3. PLEASE ADVISE.  
TUBBY

UNCLASSIFIED

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0607





75  
POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 897

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00632 031500Z

43  
ACTION: AF 18

INFO: IO 13, EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, AID 28, UPW 01, CIAE 00,  
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,  
SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

P R 031440Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 503  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

095517

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 632

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: INSPECTION SAO TOME CARGOES

REF: GENEVA 611, PARA 3: 426: 295: 153.

1. CHENARD (JCA/CRS) INFORMS MISSION HE HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM ERNEST THALMAN (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DIVISION OF SWISS FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, AND INCIDENTALLY FORMER SWISS AMBASSADOR TO US), SAYING GOS HAD ASKED SWISS EMBASSY WASHINGTON FOR ADVICE ON QUESTION POSSIBLE GOS ASSISTANCE ON INSPECTION ARRANGMENT AND LATTER HAD REPORTED STATE DEPARTMENT INTERESTED IN A COMMERCIAL FIRM DOING JOB. GOS WAS ACCORDINGLY GIVING JCA/CRS THE NAMES OF TWO SWISS COMPANIES, SECURITAS AND SCHWEIZERISCHE TREUHAND GESSELLSCHAFT.

2. CHENARD DISAPPOINTED. HAD APPARENTLY HOPED THAT GOS WOULD ITSELF DESIGNATE INSPECTORS (KUHN OF SWISS CARITAS, WHO APPROACHED GOS FOR JCA, HAD SO URGED) OR AT LEAST USE ITS INFLUENCE TO LINE UP A COMMERCIAL FIRM. CHENARD APPARENTLY READS THALMAN LETTER AS NOT IMPLYING ANY GOS APPROACH TO THE TWO COMPANIES, BUT CONCEDES GOS MIGHT HAVE ADVISED THEM OF POSSIBLE JCA/CRS APPROACH AND URGED UPON THEM A FAVORABLE RESPONSE.

3. CHENARD CABLING JCA/CRS NEW YORK FOR GUIDANCE.

4. COMMENT: RESPONSE OF SURVEILLANCE S.A. TO EARLIER APPROACH (SEE GENEVA 153) SUGGESTS SECURITAS AND SCHWEIZERISCHE TREUHAND

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Authority VMD 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00632 031500Z

MIGHT REACT IN SAME WAY UNLESS SOME GOS PRESSURE BROUGHT TO BEAR.  
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH PURSUE WITH JCA/US AND SWISS EMBASSY POSSIBI-  
LITY GOS DESIGNATING INSPECTORS OR USING INFLUENCE WITH TWO COMP-  
ANIES TO UNDERTAKE INSPECTION.  
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0609

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Authority <i>VND959503</i>
By <i>MM</i> NARA Date <i>10/5/05</i>

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

IN SOC 3 RED CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL 092

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00639 031717Z

45  
ACTION AF 18

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, SSO 00, NSCE 00,

CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, OC 06, OIC 05, RSR 01, 148 W  
096358

P R 031650Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 509  
INFO: AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USUN NEW YORK 2815

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 639

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF; ICRC COMMISSIONER LINDT

1. ICRC INFORMED BY PHONE BY ICRC DELEGATION SANTA ISABEL THIS MORNING THAT LINDT IS THERE AND TRYING TO SEE MINISTER TRANSPORT WHO IN ABSENCE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTERS INTERIOR AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (ALL IN BATA) IS THE SENIOR GEG MINISTER IN SANTA ISABEL. ICRC NOT OPTIMISTIC OVER RESUMPTION SANTA ISABEL AIRLIFT UNTIL PRESENT SPANISH GEG FRICTION EASES. (NOTE: ONLY DIRECT ICRC GENEVA-SANTA ISABEL COMMUNICATION IS BY OPEN TELEPHONE OR TELEGRAPH. ONLY SECURITY LIES IN SUCH DEVICES AS USE SWISS GERMAN DIALECT).

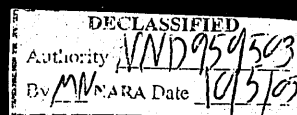
2. ICRC URGING LINDT RETURN SWITZERLAND IN TIME FOR 11:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY MARCH 5. ICRC PRESS CONFERENCE IN ZURICH. ASKED WHY CONFERENCES IN FRENCH SPEAKING GENEVA WITH SAME IN GERMAN-SPEAKING ZURICH (ADDED OBVIOUS NEXT STEP IS PRESS CONFERENCE IN LUGANO).

COMMENT: ACCORDING LOCAL GOSSIP, SWISS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OR ELEMENTS THEREIN, INCREASINGLY FEEL ICRC HAS BEEN TOO EXCLUSIVELY GENEVA-DOMINATED AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE SWISS GERMAN INFLUENCE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. END COMMENT.

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0610





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00639 031717Z

3. IF LINDT DOESN'T RETURN SWITZERLAND BY MARCH 5 HE WILL IN ANY CASE BE GENEVA FOR MEETING OF COMMITTEE MARCH 6.

4. ICRC ANXIOUS ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH US RELIEF COORDINATOR FERGUSON AND HAS SUGGESTED FERGUSON MIGHT BE ABLE VISIT GENEVA TO TAKE ADVANTAGE LINDT'S BEING HERE FOR A FEW DAYS BEGINNING ABOUT MARCH 6. PLEASE ADVISE.  
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CONFIDENTIAL

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By MVA Date 10/3/05



ORIGIN/ACTION

AF-5		
RM/R	REP	AF
1	5	4
ARA	EUR	5
NEA	CU	5
E	P	5
L	FBO	5
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
34		3
		NSC
		6

PASS-2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# AIRGRAM

POL 27-9 BIAFRA  
NIGERIA

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A-109  
NO.

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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO: Amembassy DAR ES SALAAM, Amconsuls HONG KONG, IBADAN, KADUNA,  
Amembassies LONDON, MOSCOW, PARIS, Amconsul ZANZIBAR

DEPARTMENT PASS OSD FOR DIA AND CINCSTRIKE

FROM : Amembassy LAGOS

DATE: March 1, 1969

SUBJECT: Chinese Communist Assistance for Biafran Rebels?

REF : Zanzibar A-18 of February 6, 1969 (notal)

JOINT EMBASSY/DATT MESSAGE

The referenced airgram reported that a "Biafran representative" came to Zanzibar to collect a check for \$2,520 for Biafran relief. It was noted that the representative expressed gratitude to the People's Republic of China (and Tanzania, Zambia, Ivory Coast and France) for "their support" of Biafra.

FBIS Item 0191754 quoted an AFP story of February 19 from Lagos which claimed that Nigerian federal troops captured "a considerable quantity of Chinese-made 7.62 mm. carbines from Biafrans", "according to informed sources here." The story was not confirmed by official military sources, the story said. AFP recalled that the FMG alleged earlier in February that Tanzania was aiding the Chinese communists in supplying "many goods and weapons".

Comment: This is the first time, to our knowledge, that a representative of the Biafrans has publicly acknowledged Chicom support for the rebels.

More concrete evidence came from the visit of a special relief survey team from the United States to Ikot Okporo on February 13, 1969. A representative of the U.S. Army Materiel Command told DATT that he and the other member of the team observed the rebel forces firing at Federal troops at Ikot Okporo on the other side of the Cross River. He said the rebels were not using smokeless gun powder, and after being shown several tins of captured 7.62 Chinese ammunition (still in the tins), he was of the opinion the rebels were using Chinese ammo. The source also saw several Chinese Communist 7.62 mm. Type 53 carbines (which are copies of

Downgraded at 12-year intervals;  
not automatically declassified.

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☒ In ☐ OutFORM  
4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: POL:FPicard/DAO:ColJDLangley:hs/3-1-69

Contents and Classification Approved by:  
POL:EERamsaurJr

Clearances:

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Authority: VND 954503  
By: MW/ARA Date: 10/3/05

0612

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2  
LAGOS A- 109

the Soviet M1944 carbine) which had been captured by the Federals.  
He also said the Chinese ammunition had not been waterproofed and  
50 percent of the projectiles were rusty.

MATHEWS

*CW*

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MVA Date 10/5/05

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

032219

1 MAR 69 01 26z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin ACTION: US Mission GENEVA

Info: INFO- Amembassy LAGOS

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief: Biafran Airstrip

REF: Geneva 611

1. Canadian Embassy ~~has shown~~ here shares doubts that CANAIR relief has financial ~~resources~~ resources to build new airstrip. Canadian Emboff understands CANAIR sending someone out to examine strip on ground, doubts CANAIR as ~~committed~~ committed to project as some press stories indicate.
2. Dept has no specific evidence that US money might be involved. Given interest of church groups and volags, however, we cannot rule out possibility of private contributions from those sources.

END

Drafted by:

AF/W:RPSmith:pk 2/28/69 2619

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF/W - R. M. Melbourne

Clearances:

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Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0614

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By MVA Date 10/3/03

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
032363

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

1 MAR 69 02 13z  
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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: USMission GENEVA

INFO Amembassy LAGOS  
Amembassy LONDON

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief: Food Assessment Team

REF: Geneva 610, State 19819, and previous

1. USG remains deeply concerned over ICRC failure to date to name and send international ~~XXXXXX~~ assessment team into Biafra for objective report on food need. USG publicly committed in Presidential statement February 22 announcement of appointment Special Coordinator Ferguson to earliest possible QUOTE comprehensive, internationally ~~XXXXXX~~ conducted survey of food needs in that area UNQUOTE

2. Dept and posts have constantly stressed importance and urgency of suitable survey. We accordingly disturbed at Gallopin remarks (para 2 reftel) that survey will take some time even assuming Biafran cooperation.

3. Dept believes US agricultural experts on lists provided by AID (Geneva 369) or other suitable experts available now.

It impossible keep personnel indefinitely on hand, which is

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Drafted by:

AF/W:RJWach:pk

Tel. Ext.

2/28/69 2619

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AF/W - R. Melbourne

Clearances:

AID:AFR/CWA: Mr. North

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Authority: VN12959503  
By: MNARA Date: 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION:

— Page 2 telegram to Geneva

further reason for prompt action. Dept appreciates past efforts by Geneva this subject but believes we must maintain pressure on ICRC until action is taken. Would appreciate indication of date by which survey team expected by ICRC <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ be organized.

END

*R. H. H. H.*

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 938

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00622 011102Z

12  
ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,  
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01,  
ORM 03, UPW 01, AID 28, RSR 01, 150 W

087519

R 011030Z MAR 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 493  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 622

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: FOOD ASSESSMENT TEAM

REF: STATE 32363

1. FREYMOND REITERATES TEAM BE APPOINTED SOON AS POSSIBLE  
MESSAGE SENT LINDT THURSDAY ASKING HIM TAKE ACTION.

2. FREYMOND OBSERVES LINDT BEEN ON MOVE AND HARD TO REACH.  
TODAY IS IN BIAFRA. NEVERTHELESS EXPECTS HAVE SATISFACTORY  
ANSWER BY FIRST OF WEEK.

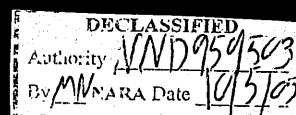
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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
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1 MAR 69 02 12z

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ACTION: USMission GENEVA  
Amembassy LAGOS

Info

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA  
Amembassy COTONOU  
Amembassy LONDON  
Amembassy OTTAWA  
Amembassy PARIS  
Amembassy YAOUNDE  
USMission, USUN

STATE

SUBJECT: Reports of Bombing of Biafran Civilians

REF: (A) State 31177 (NOTAL); (B) Lagos 1784 (NOTAL)

1. Dept deeply concerned about repeated press reports during past month of bombings of markets, hospitals, clinics in Biafra by Nigerian jets. Although many of these reports cite Biafran sources, others cite expatriate ~~xxx~~ witnesses. Most recent is New York Times article 27 February, ref A, together with AP, UPI, and Reuters items reporting bombing on 26 February by Nigerian IL 28 during proclaimed truce period of market at Ozu Abam, 24 miles from Umuahia allegedly killing 120. Earlier reports including bombing Eziana (16-17 killed), Amaigbo, Red Cross headquarters Umuowa 2 miles from Orlu on 24 February; attack on child welfare clinic and other targets Umuahia (45 dead), Amokwe, and Orlu 20 February. According Reuters 21 February ICRC

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Clearances:

AF/W:DSmith:pk

2/28/69 2619

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Telegraphic transmission and

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne

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Authority VIND 954503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Origin

ACTION:

Info:

~~XXXX~~ Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS  
US Mission GENEVA

sources confirmed Orlu bombed killing 2 and wounding 16. February 8  
Post reported that 7 February bombing and strafing attacks on  
Umuahia had killed 200-300. Times reporter Garrison wrote  
26 February that ICRC had placed final death toll for this attack  
at 312.

2. Lagos 1623 reports that MinInfo Enahoro confirmed that Federal  
aircraft were bombing targets of "military significance" in  
Umuahia but denied charges of civilian bombings which he said  
were "ploy by the rebels to win sympathy abroad."

X 3. February 28 Depoff talked to Nigerian Ambassador about ~~MM~~ US  
press reports of civilian bombings. Ambassador, while pleading  
ignorance of facts, was reminded of previous conversations, when  
Deptoffs had strongly deplored such attacks and had urged FMG to  
limit bombing to military targets. He was told Dept had equally  
strong reaction latest civilian bombings and that attacks on  
population centers could raise public spectre of genocide.

4. Request Geneva approach ICRC for information re recent

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8-65 DS-322

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Authority VND954543  
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05



# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
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Origin

ACTION:

Info:

Page ~~2~~ 3 of telegram to USMission Geneva, AMembassy Lagos

alleged bombing and strafing attacks on civilians in ~~XXXX~~ Biafra.

Dept would appreciate full details. If reports have substance, has ICRC protested to FMG or is such protest being planned?

5. For Lagos. In your meeting with Arikpo (ref B) you should indicate distress in US over report of bombings, particularly during FMG proclaimed two-day truce, and seek ascertain facts from Arikpo. You should inform Arikpo that USG deplores bombing attacks on population centers. You should also indicate that incidence of reports of high civilian casualties weakens credibility of Lagos statements that installations attacked used for military purposes. Even if Biafran sources exaggerate casualties, repeated attacks on densely populated rebel enclave will revalidate for many charge of genocide against Lagos negated by observer reports.

END

*R. R. R. R. R.*

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classification approved by:

Clearances:

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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Authority: VND 959/503  
By: MVA/ARA Date: 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00626 011453Z

47  
ACTION AF 18INFO EUR 15, IO 13, UPW 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, CIAE 00,  
 DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,SS 20, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, RSR 01, 138 W  
 088456P R 011330Z MAR 69  
 FM USMISSION GENEVA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 497  
 INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
 AMCONSUL DOUALA  
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
 AMEMBASSY LOME  
 AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
 AMEMBASSY MADRID  
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
 CINCSTRIKE UNN

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 626

SUBJECT: SITUATION EQUATORIAL GUINEA; NIGERIAN RELIEF;  
 RELIEF FLIGHTS ICRC

REF: GENEVA 600

1. ICRC TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH ITS REP SANTA ISABEL THIS  
 MORNING PRODUCED NOTHING ON GENERAL SITUATION IN EQUATORIAL  
 GUINEA NOT COVERED IN RECENT MESSAGE TRAFFIC THIS SUBJECT.2. CURFEW FROM 1800 HOURS IS INTERFERING WITH ICRC RELIEF  
 FLIGHTS. ICRC GENEVA SAYS ICRC SANTA ISABEL LACKS NECESSARY  
 AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE FLIGHTS DESPITE CURFEW. LINDT, WHO  
 NOW IN BIAFRA (DISCUSSING AMONG OTHER THINGS THE PROBLEM OF  
 BIAFRAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WHICH HAD ALREADY RESULTED IN PILOT  
 DECISION NOT TO FLY UNTIL MATTER RESOLVED - SEE REFTEL) WILL  
 BE IN SANTA ISABEL IN A DAY OR TWO.3. ICRC NOTES THAT FORTUNATELY COTONOU-BIAFRA AIRLIFT IS GOING  
 VERY WELL (MISSION WILL UPDATE DETAILS EARLY NEXT WEEK).

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XR POL 32-1 DAHOMEY-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**  
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00238 012111Z

R2  
ACTION AF 18

INFO JPM 04, SP 02, H 02, EUR 15, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00

P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, E 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01,

RSR 01, 112W

089517

P 011745Z MAR 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1913  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY LOME

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONO 238

SUBJECT: UNREST IN PORTO NOVO

1. DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST CLOSING OF NIGERIAN BORDER AND ICRC OPERATION FROM COTONOU TOOK PLACE MORNING MARCH 1 IN PORTO NOVO. PREFECT OF OUEME, WHICH INCLUDES PORTO NOVO, ESTIMATES BETWEEN FOUR AND SIX HUNDRED TOOK PART. DEMONSTRATORS CONTROLLED BY GENDARMERIE STATIONED IN PORTO NOVO REINFORCED BY POLICE FROM COTONOU. ARMY UNITS COTONOU CONSIGNED TO BARRACKS AND ON ALERT. BY 1100 HOURS LOCAL SITUATION WELL UNDER CONTROL. FOUR TO FIVE CIVILIANS WOUNDED IN FRACAS AND AT LEAST ONE GENDARME WOUNDED. FAIRLY RELIABLE REPORT INDICATED AT LEAST SOME MOLATOV COCKTAILS THROWN BY DEMONSTRATORS AND FORCES OF ORDER TOSSED TEAR GAS AND FIRED SOME SHOTS. BY 1500 LOCAL PORTO NOVO LOOKED COMPLETELY NORMAL. HOWEVER, APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED GENDARMES IN BATTLE DRESS AND ARMED WITH SUB MACHINE GUNS AND RIFLES DRAWN UP IN PLATOONS IN MARKET.

2. INDICATIONS AT THIS POINT ARE THAT PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS IN DEMONSTRATIONS WERE SMALL MERCHANTS AND TRANSPORTERS (MAMMY WAGON OWNERS) THIS GROUP IS FIRST TO FEEL PINCH

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PL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00325 010932Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, ACDA 16, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, MC 01,

UCF 03, UPW 01, CIAE 00, JPM 04, R 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /170 WI  
----- 010452

R 010730Z MAR 99:  
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE:  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2459  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCSRIK/MEAFSA  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 325

CITE SICR DACDB-21909

SUBJ BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. WOULD SEEM TO HAVE BEEN LITTLE AIRLIFT ACTIVITY SINCE  
MAR 22. FRENCH RED CROSS CHARTER DC-4 F-BRHE FLEW NIGHT  
MAR 26-27 AND POSSIBLY NIGHT MAR 27-28. EVIDENCE INDICATES  
SUPPOSED ARMS CARRIER DC-4 BBDD FLEW NPLA MAR 27-28. ORDER OF  
MALTA DC-3 F-BRAM DEPARTED LIBREVILLE MAR 28 OR EARLY MAR 29  
AND RETURNED 1800 MAR 30.

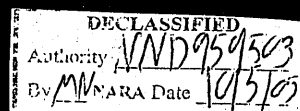
2. FRENCH AIR FORCE DC-6 64PK, A FREQUENT VISITOR IN AIRPORT  
MILITARY AREA DURING DAY MAR 30.

3. DR FRANK CATCHPOOL (PROTECT) OF SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP WHO  
HERE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND HAS MET MANY AIRLIFT PILOTS. STATES  
HE HAS INFO INDICATING BELGIAN REGISTRY DC-6 OO-HEX, WHICH

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Libreville 325-  
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00325 010932Z

FLYING IRISH RELIEF SUPPLIES BIAFRA, ALSO ENGAGED IN BRINGING ARMS TO LIBREVILLE FOR ONWARD TRANSPORT TO BIAFRA BY OTHER CARRIERS. SO FAR WE UNABLE CONFIRM WITH ANY OTHER EVIDENCE, BUT NOTE THAT OO-HEX IS PLANE OF BELGIAN INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICE (BIAS) WHICH LAST FILM HAD DC-6 OO-GER CARRYING ARMS FROM DAR TO LIBREVILLE.

4. DR CATCHPOOL ALSO SAYS BELGIANS PLANNING BRING IN AT LEAST TWO MORE PLANES TO CARRY 1,500 TONS RELIEF SUPPLIES WHICH COMING LIBREVILLE BY SHIP. GR 3 BANE

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